

THIRD SERIES VOL 62 NUMBER 7

MAY 1955

# THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

66 PORTLAND PLACE LONDON W1 • TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE



*York Minster. From a photograph by Herbert Felton, F.R.P.S.*



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# THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

THIRD SERIES VOLUME SIXTY-TWO NUMBER SEVEN  
66 PORTLAND PLACE LONDON W1 TELEPHONE LANGHAM 5721-7

TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE  
TELEGRAMS: RIBAZO WESDO LONDON

MAY 1955

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## American Honours for the President and Secretary R.I.B.A.

The American Institute of Architects have elected Mr. C. H. Aslin, C.B.E., the President R.I.B.A., an Honorary Corresponding Member and Mr. C. D. Spragg, C.B.E., the Secretary, an Honorary Member. They were invited to attend the Annual Convention of the A.I.A., held this year in Minneapolis, to be presented with certificates of membership, but both have had to decline owing to pressure of work. The invitation to the President was extended to Mrs. Aslin.

Mr. Spragg's certificate has now reached this country and was presented to him on 28 April at a luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel. President Claire W. Ditchy had requested the Treasurer of the American Institute, Mr. Leon Chatelain, Junior, who is on a visit to this country, to make the presentation. At the luncheon were Mrs. Chatelain, Mr. Davies, lawyer to the American Institute, and Mrs. Davies, Mr. C. H. Aslin, Mr. E. D. Jefferiss Mathews and Mr. S. Rowland Pierce, Vice-Presidents R.I.B.A., and Mrs. E. Fidler, Mr. Spragg's sister.

## R.I.A.I. Triennial Gold Medal

The Triennial Gold Medal of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland has been awarded, for the period 1950-1952, to Mr. Thomas P. Kennedy, B.Arch., F.R.I.A.I., for the Out-Patients' Department and Treatment Centre of St. Luke's Hospital, Rathgar.

This medal is awarded for the best building completed within each three-year period and it is the highest honour which can be bestowed on an Irish architect by the R.I.A.I.

The previous winners of the award have been: Mr. F. G. Hicks, F.R.I.A.I. [F], for St. Thomas's Church, Cathal Brugha Street, Dublin; Professor Desmond FitzGerald, B.Arch., F.R.I.A.I., A.M.T.P.I. [A], for Collinstown Air Port; Mr. Alan Hope for Aspro Factory, Inchicore.

## The R.I.B.A. Collection of Photographs of Architects' Work

Inserted in this JOURNAL is a leaflet drawing members' attention to and describing the collection of photographs which is being made at the R.I.B.A. The leaflet explains the purpose of the collection, and it is hoped that members will add to it by submitting photographs of their work. The formation of the collection was announced last year, but so far the response has been insufficient to make it of full use. The original requirement that no architect should submit more than two separate jobs per annum has now been waived.

## Associate of the Royal Academy

Mr. Donald H. McMorran [F] has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy.

## Village Halls

The President wrote to the Minister of Education in regard to the building of village halls with the aid of subsidies to be provided by the Government, and drew attention to the importance of good design and quality. He asked the Minister to consider the advantages of employing qualified architects for this work.

The following reply has been received from the Minister, and is published with his consent:

'I have been looking into the problem of village hall design which you mention in your letter of 7 February.

'I quite agree with you that we should all strive to ensure that the villages achieve good standards of design, and that this is more likely to be achieved if qualified architects are employed. Sound advice in the early stages of the preparation of a scheme is also important, and I am glad to know that something is being done to provide this. The National Council of Social Service, with whom the Ministry co-operate very closely in dealing with village halls, issued two pamphlets last year, one on the site and building, and the other on the interior. They are also issuing a revised version of their *Notes of Construction* which have been brought up to date. The Ministry's architects can help too, since arrangements have been made for them to see plans at an earlier stage than was often possible in the past. Finally, all applications are sent to the Ministry through Local Education Authorities, and I hope that they will do their best to assist the local Village Hall Committees to achieve good standards.'

## The 'Quarterly'

THE QUARTERLY, which is the official Journal of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, reaches its hundredth issue this month. Messages of congratulation are contained in the May issue from the Royal Scottish Academy, the Scottish Branch of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the R.I.B.A.; and an introduction is provided by Mr. L. Grahame MacDougall, R.S.A. [F], President of the Royal Incorporation. Our congratulations are expressed to the Royal Incorporation on this notable occasion and for the zeal and enthusiasm of the QUARTERLY Sub-Committee and its Honorary Editors, in setting and maintaining the standard of this publication in a period of over thirty years.

### Unity of the Profession

Every member in the United Kingdom will have received a letter, signed by the Secretary R.I.B.A., setting out the Council's views on the formation of societies or groups of architects ostensibly to advance sectional interests. Today when the profession more than ever before has to deal directly with government departments and large corporations on a variety of important matters, the Royal Institute is able to obtain respect for the profession's views because it is known to speak for its members as a whole who constitute the great majority of the profession. Were splinter groups, holding contrary views, known to exist, the cogency of the Royal Institute's representations would be greatly diminished.

In advising members not to indulge in the formation of splinter groups, however well-intentioned their promoters may be, the Council of the Royal Institute are not without experience of the weakening of the profession which such groups cause. Since 1925 the bulk of the profession has been united in the Royal Institute; it is this unity which has made possible a great programme of expansion, including among other things statutory registration of architects. Parallel with that programme there has resulted an equal growth in the prestige of the profession. Today the profession is in a far stronger position than it was thirty years ago.

Individuals and groups of members are not without adequate means of making their views and special interests known. The Council are elected according to a democratic constitution which was specially designed to that end. To ensure that it is continuing to do so the Council recently appointed a special committee whose report is published on pages 279-81 of this JOURNAL.

The constitution, by reason of the dual system of direct election to the Council and representation of independent Allied Societies on it, ensures that the individual member has ample power to make his views known—power which is appreciably greater than that of members of many similar societies. In addition, the individual can state his views on any professional matter at the Royal Institute's Annual General Meeting and they will be published in the JOURNAL, or at the Annual General Meeting of his Allied Society. As a further safeguard, if he writes to the Secretary R.I.B.A. he can be assured that any constructive suggestion or genuine grievance will receive the full attention of the Council or appropriate committee.

### Vacational Employment of Students

With the approach of the summer vacation, the attention of members is again called to the scheme for helping students to gain practical experience in architects' offices between the months of June and October. Since 1947 when the scheme was started the number of members in private practice notifying the Institute of their willingness to offer such employment has been getting less and less; and for the last four years most of the vocational vacancies notified have come from public offices. It is very much hoped that the response this year will come equally from both private and public offices and that it will be sufficient to enable the Institute to accommodate most of the students who apply. Members willing to co-operate in the scheme should notify the Secretary without delay, giving particulars under the following headings: (a) period for which employment is offered, (b) number of students that can be employed during the period, and (c) a range of remuneration.

### Yale Fellowship for British Architect

Mr. Peter A. Page [A], who graduated with first class Honours in the Department of Architecture, the University of Sheffield, in June 1954, has been awarded a Henry Fellowship of £1,000 tenable for one year in Yale University, U.S.A. Henry Fellowships are awarded by a Committee of Management consisting of six trustees, three from Oxford University and three from Cambridge University. Mr. Page, whose home is in Leighton Buzzard, has been, since he graduated, in the office of the County Architect of Essex.

### President of the A.A. 1955-56

Mr. Bryan Westwood, A.A. Dipl. (Hons.) [F], has been elected unopposed as President of the Architectural Association for the year 1955-56. Born in 1909 and educated at Hall School, Weybridge, and Sidcot School, Somerset, he studied at the A.A. School for 1927-32 where he won the Henry Jarvis Prize. He later joined his father's



firm and in 1935 he became partner in P. J. Westwood and Sons.

He won, with Edmund Ward [A], the competition for Godalming Town Hall and Civic Centre and with his brother, Norman Westwood [F], the competition for the new front of the Building Centre in Bond Street.

In 1940 he joined the R.N.V.R. and served in Atlantic escorts for one year, then at H.M. Signal School and finally with the R.A.F. on photographic interpretation as head of Naval Technical Section. He served the last two years of the war in aircraft carriers.

With his brother, and later with J. E. K. Harrison [F] and E. G. J. Chapman [A], as Westwood, Sons & Harrison, he has designed laboratories for the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers, research buildings for foot and mouth disease, Pirbright, for testing components of guided missiles in Wales and for the Coke Research Association near Chesterfield. He has designed schools as well as shops, banks and public houses.

He has served on the Architects' Registration Council and for the past two years as A.A. representative on the R.I.B.A. Council.

### R.I.B.A. Form of Contract. Nominated Sub-Contractors.

In addition to informing each nominated sub-contractor of the amount included for him in a certificate issued to the contractor as recommended in Practice Note 20, published by the Joint Contract Tribunal, the architect in issuing a certificate to the contractor under clause 24 of the contract should direct the contractor in writing to pay to the nominated sub-contractors the sums included in the certificate for them.

The Practice Committee of the R.I.B.A. in endorsing Practice Note 20 and in giving this opinion strongly recommend members to adopt these practices where they do not already do so. The first recommendation will enable the nominated sub-contractor to have information to which he is entitled and the second recommendation will facilitate any action that may arise under clause 21(c) of the contract.

### R.I.B.A. Diary

SATURDAY 28 MAY—MONDAY 30 MAY inclusive. R.I.B.A. Offices and Library closed for Whitsun holiday.

WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE—SATURDAY 11 JUNE. British Architects' Conference at Harrogate.

TUESDAY 14 JUNE. 6 p.m. General Meeting. Council Election Results. *Sociology and Architecture*—Professor Charles Madge.





# Presentation of the Royal Gold Medal for 1955

To Mr. J. Murray Easton [F]

At the R.I.B.A. on 5 April 1955. The President in the Chair

**The President:** This is the Sixth General Meeting and it is the occasion on which we honour our friend, Mr. Murray Easton, with the presentation of the Royal Gold Medal. He is truly beloved by the members of the organisation which has thought fit to recommend his name for this honour. I am greatly honoured to be in the Chair on this occasion.

**Mr. Hope Bagenal, D.C.M. [F]:** It is my office this evening to congratulate, on your behalf and on behalf of my colleagues, Mr. John Murray Easton for the honourable award of the Royal Gold Medal. The Gold Medal was instituted in 1848 by the reigning Sovereign, and Cockerell was the first winner. It is international in its range and I think that John Easton is the sixth or seventh Scotsman to receive it.

To speak about the work of an intimate friend and contemporary is not easy. To begin with, we elders of course do not think of each other as elders at all but as young sprigs passing rich on four guineas a week. Something of that freemasonry of youth goes on but of course a great builder and embodiment must be seriously considered a force in his time and I want to try to give you my interpretation of his work. Easton and Robertson can be distinguished without separating them. I greatly appreciate the work of both; but we are speaking tonight of those buildings that we see shown on the walls on this room, the Royal Horticultural Hall, the series of Cambridge University schools and laboratories, the Metropolitan Water Board building, Bart's students' hostel and of course a great series of hospitals.

First of all, these buildings come out of a milieu of their own. They come out of an office with a happy working partnership—an office where younger men and older men work together carrying on that great tradition of friendliness of that good man, Stanley Hall. That office is also a school of building research and a school of aesthetics. For me those buildings of John's, with their pale, clear coloured brick walls, their moderate sized windows, their interesting grouping of parts derived directly from the plan requirements, as in the new School of Chemistry in Cambridge, and also their careful waterproofing, often embodying that most practical, functional and scientific part, the cornice, constitute the architecture of reconciliation. By that I do not mean the architecture of compromise. I have always thought that Easton is a mind emancipated both from the tyranny of the old and from the tyranny of the new and everything is submitted

really to a rigorous experimental criticism. Thus we find experience and experiment side by side and we find in his work the old and the new together.

I think really that his deeper interest is in the new but his acceptance of reality, and possibly his Scottish upbringing, compel him to 'gang o'er the fundamentals' and the first fundamental is the climate of these islands, always wetting and drying, freezing and thawing and prizing at joints, always enforcing its terrible sanctions on each new generation of innocents. So behind these good-tempered exteriors of Easton's buildings I find a reconciliation of those conflicting claims and all decently harmonised. Also I find in his work the aristocratic principle. This I explain to myself as refinement without loss of strength.

But of course it is today the hospital in which the full conundrum of the modern problem is really encountered—the awful complexity and multiplicity of modern science and technology which is a reflection of the age pressing on the architect. He needs patience and pertinacity. He has to make heartbreaking sacrifices and he also has to make decisions and make other people make decisions, and psychologists tell us fewer and fewer people are now able to make decisions. John Easton and his young men have made for themselves a great name in hospital building. They have designed and embodied those hospitals that we know so well. They fly all over the Commonwealth, and really when I think of the importance of that work and the value of it to the community all over the Commonwealth, I am very glad indeed that we can honour that work tonight.

I must now say something personal. He is a man whom I have always relied on for a kind of support, an invincible friendliness and something more—a fortitude in time of war and in time of stress. When he was in Hong Kong recently, the Chinese students enjoyed his company. They said that his name was "The Scholar," kind and friendly, and they added "His animal is the lion."

Then there is his wife, Ruth Tinker, an artist in her own right, a good painter and one whose career many of us have followed with affection since she was a girl at the A.A. School. There is one of those interesting modern homes where there is a noble rivalry upstairs and downstairs between art and life, each contending for absolute authority, but always hospitable, as those of you will know who have experienced 48 Hamilton Terrace. Easton

is a Scot and has the gift of recollection. It was while I was with him recently that he spoke to me about his father. He said that his father was always deeply interested in architecture, that he was a friend of William Kelly of Aberdeen, and that he himself always longed to be an architect. And so it seems to me, looking back, that he—that man I never knew—stands behind this ceremony of ours this evening. It seems to me today that father would be proud of his son.

Therefore I want to thank John Easton from us all for excellent work done in the past and, we hope, for more excellent work in the future.

**Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A. (Vice-President):** I feel chary myself at speaking after that extremely beautiful and charming discourse which we have just heard. How sensitive and how right!

You have already heard about the Gold Medal, this supreme token of regard which an architect can receive. I think it is perhaps the highest honour an architect can hope to receive and it gives me enormous pleasure as a fellow Scot to have this opportunity of speaking.

It is perhaps an unfortunate habit of the Scots that they incline to leave their native country. But it is a habit nevertheless and John Murray Easton is in the company of some very great architects—James Gibbs, Adam, Cameron, Mackintosh, to name only a few. Somehow the atmosphere in Scotland and the discipline that is imposed on Scots generally has a sort of suppressing influence and once we get beyond the border something seems to happen.

We have heard a very scholarly and lucid description of John Murray Easton's work. One building in particular sticks in my mind because it had a great influence on me as an architect in the second year of the Edinburgh School of Architecture. That was almost 30 years ago and the building was the Royal Horticultural Hall. Few young architects now practising today, some of whom were not born in 1927—1927 was a good vintage year—can hope to realise the impact which that building had on people of my own vintage. This building had a tremendous freshness and lightness and an exterior which was the forerunner of many others that have imitated it. We think it is quiet and beautifully proportioned and we do not realise that its impact on people like myself in 1927 when we first saw it was similar to the impact of the Royal Festival Hall on people today. It was a building well before its time.

I do not want to speak a great deal about John Easton's work because that has already been covered so ably, but I should like to say a word or two about John Murray Easton as a man and as one of those gentle creatures. I should like to finish this very short appreciation by speaking about a personal incident. After the war, when I came out of the Army, like many others I had to set about the job of trying to get a practice together, which was extremely difficult. You all know how one came back after six years and tried to rake up all the old clients. It was a struggle. However, I found myself, greatly to my surprise, quite early after coming back, on the short list for a building to be built in Glasgow. On that short list was also the name of John Murray Easton. I did not know that, but if I had I should not have been so cocksure when I went for an interview. I was not exactly cocksure, but I did not know what I was up against.

When I learned that I had been selected I was delighted and I received a very nice letter from John Easton, our Gold Medallist tonight, saying how pleased he was and hoping that it would be the first of many buildings. I was touched by this and I happened a little later on, and even more to my surprise, to be again on a short list for another building. Needless to say I did not get it but John Easton did and so I thought it only right and proper to reciprocate and write and say that I was delighted that he had been appointed. I got, as always, a charming letter in reply, telling me not to be discouraged because in the public imagination all architects are like pears. For a long period they are green and hard. Then they are ripe and then they are rotten!

**Mr. Thomas Knox-Shaw, C.B.E., M.C., M.A. [Hon. A]:** I wish to thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the work which Mr. Murray Easton has done and is still doing at Cambridge. I am very pleased indeed to have this opportunity and it also gives me a chance to say how very greatly I appreciate the honour which the Institute did me some years ago when they made me one of their Honorary Associates.

It might be of interest to you if I told you how Mr. Murray Easton came to be associated with Cambridge. In the early '30s during the depression the University was fortunate enough to have a number of benefactions involving the building of new laboratories. I was Treasurer at that time and looking back those really were wonderful days for the planner because contractors were falling over each other for work. They could give a definite date for completion and stick to it, which was a great boon when the beginning of another project depended upon the completion of a former one.

When it came to the turn of the Department of Zoology, we looked out for an architect who had a special flair for a difficult problem of construction and we decided that the man who had designed

the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall in Vincent Square was the man whom we ought to approach. At that time zoology occupied two buildings separated by a gap. The former old building of zoology dated from the 19th century and there was a newer building designed by E. S. Prior originally for the School of Medicine which had been opened by the King in 1904.

In the gap Mr. Murray Easton was quite free in the matter of design because he did not have to take into consideration any of the adjoining buildings. He gave us an admirable building which can easily be adapted in future years if need be. It is built on a unit system so that by moving partitions the laboratories and research rooms can be made any size that is required.

When it came to the alterations to Prior's building the difficulty which I had foreseen was realised. That building had been designed to meet the special whims of a number of professors without any consideration for the future, with the result that when we wanted to use it for zoology we found that we had practically to pull it down. All that now remains of Prior's building is an outside wall, a staircase and a small museum. As Prior was alive at that time we had to speak of reconstruction in our reports to the University although, as I have said, very little of the original building remains. So remarkably successful were we in disguising what we were doing that Professor Pevsner in his Penguin Book on the buildings of Cambridge says this in referring to Prior's building: '... round the corner in Corn Exchange St. an excellently composed modern yellow brick addition, 1934, by Murray Easton. In the same style the whole north front of Prior's building was refaced.' That is hardly correct! The present building is at least 6 ft. wider than the old one. Not so complimentary were some of the remarks of the zoologists because they thought it was really scandalous for the architect to decorate the floors and the staircase with what seemed to be reptiles and other animals but apparently of no known species of classification!

The next job which Mr. Easton did for us was that of renovating the Old Schools and here he had full scope to show his versatility and eminence as a creative artist. The Old Schools were for a long time the home of the University library but as that increased it ousted all the other occupants until it, in its turn, had to be moved to the new library built by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, with its 44 miles of bookshelving. The Old Schools contain buildings dating from the 15th century onwards and Mr. Easton's treatment of the fine suite of rooms on the first floor has been universally admired and praised. Equally successful was he with his treatment of Cockerell's building for the Squire Law Library and the Seeley Library for History where he brought out the fine proportions of Cockerell's original design which had been spoilt by overcrowding with bookcases.

The next big job which he did for us

was the School of Anatomy. There Mr. Murray Easton had an island site but it was in close proximity to laboratories built by Arnold Mitchell, Sir Edwin Cooper, Warren and T. A. Lodge, all in different styles. Mr. Easton gave us an imposing building with many interesting features. The internal arrangements of an anatomy building, which are complicated, require a great deal of care. They were worked out most admirably by Mr. Murray Easton.

In those pre-war years Mr. Easton also built an extension for the School of Geography and the Department of Experimental Psychology. He also planned an extension of the St. Michael's Court for Gonville and Caius College. There the College rooms overlook the Market Place and there are shops under an arcade on the ground floor. To quote Professor Pevsner again: 'The result is the best building at Cambridge in the style of the 20th century.'

Since the war Mr. Murray Easton has designed two additions to the Department of Engineering, first a block of workshops and then a fine tall building containing lecture rooms, research rooms, offices and so on. Mr. Easton is already planning an extension of this building because the University Grants Committee give special funds for technological subjects.

By far the most imposing of the modern buildings is the large new Chemical Laboratory now in course of construction. That building is extremely interesting as it has in it new methods for supplying all the necessary services required in a new chemical building. I have watched a great many laboratories being built in my time and I can say that this last building of Mr. Murray Easton's impresses me far more than anything he has done previously. Only last month when I took round Sir Keith Murray, the Chairman of the University Grants Committee, he told me that in his opinion it was far in advance of anything he had seen in his recent tour of inspection of laboratories on the Continent.

There are other projects I could mention such as the project for the building of a new out-patients' department for the United Cambridge Hospitals, but time is drawing to a close. I hope I have said enough to explain why we in Cambridge hold Mr. Murray Easton in such very high esteem. We are very glad that he has been honoured by being the Gold Medallist for this year.

**Sir Frank Montgomery, M.C.:** I feel greatly honoured at having been asked to speak on this very happy occasion. I know that I am speaking for the friends of John Murray Easton in Northern Ireland when I express our very great pleasure that this high honour has been conferred upon him by his professional colleagues.

As another type of Scot, an Ulster Scot, I am unfortunately not endowed with that native wit or fluency of speech required to do adequate justice to an occasion of this importance. Such qualities are more

often to be found on the banks of the Liffey than on the Lagan. Sincerity, however, is a good substitute for eloquence, and brevity for wit.

My first contact with John Easton was in 1944 when he came to Belfast at the invitation of the Royal Victoria Hospital to plan future developments. Our first session together lasted more than three and a half hours and I learned that he is a good listener and a man of large but not unlimited tolerance. During the intervening years his quiet informed approach, his willingness to listen to and investigate the diverse views of members of the Committee and his shrewd and keen judgement have been a new experience for us all. We are, I fear, an untutored lot of people in matters architectural, but we soon realised that we had as our ally a man of great intellectual attainment, reasoning power and originality, made all the more impressive by his gift of understatement. Indeed, we came to accept the ideas and recommendations of Mr. John Easton with a degree of unanimity as complete as it was surprising. Strange behaviour indeed on the part of Irishmen who traditionally prefer a battle of words to no fight at all.

John Easton is not only an architect of great eminence in his profession, but is also a man with a wide range of varied activities and interests in the sister arts, in life, and in the arts of good living. A connoisseur of good food and wine, a chef of varying degrees of excellence on occasion, a stimulating and witty conversationalist, an admirable host, a genial guest, he adds gaiety and spice to the lives of his friends and transforms a dull occasion into one of cheerfulness and entertainment.

He has definite affinities with Belfast, for his grandfather was actively engaged in the shipbuilding industry and in the production of the renowned Aberdeen-built clipper ships in the China tea trade, such as the *Thermopylae*, rival of the *Cutty Sark*. He is a long-standing patron of our local Gallahers tobacco, in the smoking of which his consumption of matches borders on the astronomical.

His mother, I believe, lived for some years in Paris which probably accounts for his cultivated taste for the good things of the table. His intimate knowledge of the wines of France and Portugal is, however, entirely the result of his own unaided efforts. From his mother, too, I believe springs his inability to be always wholly and entirely serious, to me one of his most engaging characteristics.

Though much has been planned on paper, John Easton has only completed two major projects in Northern Ireland. The first, a nurses' home of 220 beds, has set a new standard of accommodation for nurses and, indeed, is so good that we cannot hope to repeat it in the immediate future. On the same site but in a position which presented almost every possible disadvantage, the new Institute of Clinical Science was completed and opened last year for Queen's University. I am not competent to explain how John Easton has designed and produced this building which



[Photograph: MUNICIPAL JOURNAL]

is at once so satisfying to the eye and so supremely good functionally. Its two lecture rooms, its library and reading rooms in particular, are the pride of all who use them and the envy of all who visit them. I hazard the guess he approached the task as a technical problem to be solved, and ended up by regarding it and using it as an opportunity for an artist. For a great and true artist John Easton undoubtedly is.

It was Frank Lloyd Wright who said 'A doctor can bury his mistakes, an architect can only advise his client to plant vines.' As a doctor I admit the implication in the first part of the sentence, though in the modern Welfare State the skeleton not infrequently comes home to roost, but I am certain that your Gold Medallist of 1955 has never had to advise a client to plant anything except flowers in the herbaceous border.

From his many friends in Belfast I bring most cordial greetings and good wishes to John Murray Easton. We are delighted and we congratulate him most warmly on attaining this very high distinction. We congratulate ourselves, too, that in the University and in the hospital service of Northern Ireland we chose so wisely a Royal Gold Medallist to be one of our principal architectural advisers. May he continue to flourish.

**Dr. Charles Harris, F.R.C.P.:** The privilege you have afforded me in letting me speak on this happy occasion is outstanding and I would wish to thank you for it. I know many laymen, one of whom you have just heard, who could seize this opportunity with much greater eloquence, but I know of none who would wish to offer tribute with greater sincerity. I hope that you will let this factor make up for the many shortcomings in what I have to say.

I do not know whether it would be more funny or more absurd or more painful if I were, in this place and in this company, to attempt my own assessment of Easton's work as an architect. In any case I have no intention of so exposing my complete

incapacity, however startling the result might be. Much rather would I like to speak of Mr. Easton as a human being. It must be very nearly a decade since I first met him at a friendly luncheon table and thereafter I have had the good fortune to renew that happy and informal experience on many occasions. Wherever it has been his personality has radiated a sort of charm which I always associate with our first encounter.

During the last ten years Mr. Easton has been a liberal education to me. I have got from him some inkling of what is involved in being a professional architect and that there is a great deal more in it than sitting at a desk designing things. Perhaps I should give you a summary of my observation of Mr. Easton, or of a practising architect as shown by him.

First of all there is the phase of being something between a psychiatrist and a water diviner. This is during the initial conversation with a potential client. From an endless flow of verbiage the architect has to find out what the man wants to have built. It may not be clear whether it is a public hall or a telephone booth. Having at last arrived at what is really wanted there follows a phase during which the architect makes up his mind whether he wishes to design it, whether it can be done in the surroundings and with the materials available, and if so there follows a period of a combination of planning, imagination, art and technology. When this rather mysterious business is complete and the result committed to paper, the client must be given the chance of saying whether that is what he really wants and whether he can afford it. Goodness knows what wastage of effort there is at this point.

All being well, however, there follows a stage of form filling, licence obtaining, estimates and so on which is very intricate, the successful practice of which should ensure that any architect who wishes to get a visa to visit the United States will, within six months of his first approach, get one. A tender is at last accepted and a starting date fixed. There appears then to



follow a major testing time for the architect. Whatever material or substance the building is to be made of immediately vanishes. There is no steel, nor bricks, nor timber, and the architect has to exercise his cunning in thinking up substitutes.

In regard to Easton I always believe that the Old Testament history would have been completely altered had he been with the Israelites in Egypt. When the straw shortage arose for making bricks he would have pointed out that goats' hair does just as well and that compressed camel dung makes much better bricks. The crisis would have been avoided and the Israelites might have stayed in Egypt and the necessity for New York would have been avoided!

To return to my summary, eventually with whatever building materials can be obtained the building is well under way and now comes another testing time—what one might call the phase of diplomacy. The architect's client is suddenly seized with a flood of bright ideas. Despite the fact that the roof is just going on his building the client decides that he might as well have an underground car park below it. The architect, behaving somewhat like a good nanny, has to distract his attention and somehow make him understand that there will be no nonsense.

The real measure of the man is that amongst all those distractions he manages to get finished a building of real merit which even to the lay eye serves the purpose for which it is designed, and is satisfactory in itself and in its surroundings.

I hope that I have made it clear that at least one architect has persuaded me that just as a vintage wine is not merely a matter of fermenting grapes, so with the designing and execution of a building project there are many apparently unrelated factors each of which demands very great skill and considerable judgement. If I may borrow the terminology of the wine merchant or his catalogue, looking forward 75 or 100 years one might find him, after the manner of his kind, describing Easton's work somewhat like this: 'These buildings are maturing well and are still used for the purpose for which they were designed. To most palates they have a pleasant flavour of austerity sometimes approaching clinical asepsis, but when rolled round the tongue will reveal a quirk of gaiety like a frivolous hat on a handsome woman.' No eloquence of mine will record better the genius and essential integrity of the man. I will leave the last word with the unborn catalogue.

**Mr. F. Leslie Preston [F]:** It is a great pleasure to pay tribute to my partner, for it is only a few years ago that he was offering his bouquet to another partner, Sir Howard Robertson, when he received the same high award. Apart from Howard Robertson, I have had the honour of being in association with John Easton in the practice longer than anyone else.

I first met him during a summer vacation, when I went into their office, in 1922. When I joined them a few years later John Easton had a charming lady architect on the staff, very carefully chosen, and she, Ruth Tinker,

with whom I was a fellow student, became a partner quite quickly as his wife. There can be little doubt that that was the beginning of one of the main paths which, through the years, has led to this evening and, having been privileged to see so much of its course, I feel that I am able to think and speak of John Easton as an eminent architect and of both him and his wife as very old friends.

The recollections of those early days are deeply etched on my memory and I recall throughout the years the very great care he has always exercised in dealing with every detail. With his masterly mind there is always an original approach to every problem, whether it be old or new, and it is often solved by introducing some new or novel device. He is a wonderful perfectionist in general design and detail which are always simple, but always contain a fresh treatment of some familiar element and he will never rest until he feels that he has achieved the best possible solution and knows precisely what each part of a building is contributing to the whole or the final composition. It is this great care together with his instinctive understanding and profound experience in various fields which has achieved his many notable buildings.

The search for new ways and keeping abreast of the needs of a rapidly changing world goes on. John Easton has travelled in many lands and is always fully aware of the trends and interprets them in his own way after a very careful investigation. However, if there is an opportunity of having a good plinth on a building there is naturally a very strong inclination to use Aberdeen granite!

I have spoken briefly of the academic side but there is the other aspect to reveal: his perennial youthfulness which I have always thought is similar to that of a famous Barrie character. I must not mention the name because there is another architect present who bears it, but this sprightly spirit is always present to the delight of the company around him. His sense of humour is always to the rescue and there can only be a few men with the power of remaining completely unruffled by any mishap and with such qualities of self-control and sound judgement.

May I conclude by saying how delighted I am to know that the name of John Murray Easton will be carved on our marble wall of honour, for ever among the names of the other distinguished architects of the world who have been honoured by our Sovereign. May he be blessed with the best of health that he may enjoy life to the full and be actively engaged in our profession to which he is so manifestly devoted for many years to come.

**The President:** Some of you may be wondering why Sir Howard Robertson is not with us. He happens to be in Hong Kong which is too far away to allow him to get here. He has, however, sent a message which I will ask the Secretary to read.

**The Secretary:** The message says: 'As a partner he has everything. As a brother

architect I am constantly impressed by the mature quality of his buildings.'

**The President:** It is the custom on these occasions for the recipient of the Gold Medal to be escorted to the platform by two former recipients of the Medal. There are quite a number here tonight but I will ask Sir Percy Thomas and Sir Edward Maufe if they will be good enough to persuade Mr. John Murray Easton to come forward and receive his Medal.

*The President then, amid applause, invested Mr. John Murray Easton with the Royal Gold Medal.*

**The President:** I now call upon Mr. John Easton to reply to the many delightful things which have been said by his friends and colleagues.

**Mr. John Murray Easton [F]:** Until now I have had a lovely time, but the things I have heard said were in fact said about a person bearing the same name as myself but not actually myself! None the less, I find the temptation irresistible to annex some of the bouquets that have been thrown. I think it is fundamental to human nature to need praise and appreciation. I have had it to the full and running over. Psychologists say that those who do not get enough are liable to become juvenile delinquents but later on this relief becomes no longer possible.

My clients have been a wonderful lot, I must say, and I have had the happiest possible experience of working for them. Clients are the prime necessity of architects. They must have at least the hope of getting someone to build what they design otherwise it becomes an empty thing.

On the note of appreciation, the R.I.B.A. has given me something I had not dreamed of. I am more proud of this than of anything I could possibly have. In entering into this distinguished company of Gold Medallists I feel something of the diffidence of a new member of an exclusive club who walks in for the first time and is greeted with cold stares. In this case there is a certain justification for that since most of the Gold Medallists are dead! However, there are the two Gold Medallists who took me to the platform, and a little farther away there is Sir Giles Scott, and they make me feel that I may in time become at home in this distinguished society.

It has been most interesting to hear the skill with which the various speakers have spotlighted and thrown light and shade on a character which badly needed it. There are some Gold Medallists who are more picturesque than others. You have had some very picturesque ones and it is about time you had a plain one!

I do not think I can enter into a discussion on architecture. It might last too long, even tongue-tied as I am. I have always been fortunate in that I have had appreciative and delightful clients, and for that I have to thank my parents for giving me a name which is a dactyl and a spondee. That master of the black arts, Alester



Crowley, changed his name for plain James because he knew that although success in life is quite possible to those without a dactyl and spondee name they have to be brighter and work harder.

First among the Pleiades to speak is our President who is that many-splendoured thing, an architect, a client (almost) and a patron. From his throne in Hertford he dispenses schools to those whom he considers suitable and, as President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, nominates architects for important work.

My first real clients, who set our firm on its feet, were Lord Aberconway and his wife. They were then the McLarens and for many years, up to the last war, we had the pleasure of doing a stream of work for them. It was through Lord Aberconway that we were invited to enter that limited company who were competing for the building of the Royal Horticultural Hall. There was no architectural assessor or we should not have won! However, we were fortunate enough to win it and this was the start of such practice as we have had.

Then Mr. Knox-Shaw talked about Cambridge which has been my happiest hunting ground. For 20 years my chief preoccupation and pleasure and privilege has been working there, and I should like to say that in the organisation of building work in Cambridge, the building syndicate over which he presided always struck me as ideal in simplicity, informality and efficiency. In that connection I should say that Mr. H. Marshall, who was for so long its Secretary, has been the kindest and most helpful of friends that one could wish to work with. I have had a long innings there and I am still not quite out; but from over the Cam there has been a new sound coming of late years, a curious sound. It is the creaking of Hugh Casson's duffle coat! He is due for an innings there which is full of promise and I hope that he will enjoy his time as much as I have.

Ireland has been a delightful facet of my life. In 1940, when I was fire-watching in Bedford Square, I had as a resource a little book in which I struggled with the plan of our first hospital there, the Children's Hospital in Dublin, and later a hospital at Limerick. A fortnight in Dublin during the war was quite something. One came back refreshed and somewhat heavier round the waist. Those who were present at the post-war Conference in Dublin will remember the hospitality of John Robinson, who was a colleague on the Children's Hospital. Sir Frank Montgomery has spoken of the times I have had in Northern Ireland—the gay times. I might really be thought to be a sort of play-boy of the Western world, but one's own defects produce the counter-balance.

For instance, I have always felt a little slow, a little diffident and a little uncertain. I have had colleagues who could pronounce a verdict on things practically without looking at them. They can tell at a moment's glance that the assessors of a competition are grossly incompetent! I was a little relieved to find a Chinese poem which rather put my point of view: 'It is uncom-

fortable to be uncertain but it is ridiculous to be sure.' That has been my feeling about a great many architectural problems. Of late years I think I have achieved a certain degree of certainty about everything. It is the certainty of being uncertain about most things and occasionally the certainty of being certain about something.

Dr. Harris has painted a very nice picture. He is an artist as well as a physician and I would not wish to contradict him for the world. He was one of the clients who was gentle yet firm. He was like a corset to a blowsy figure!

With regard to what Mr. Preston has said, I would express my apologies to my partners, present and absent, for being too egotistical—far too much I and not enough we. That does not mean that I fail to realise that without the others I would have fallen by the wayside long ago. For 36 years Howard Robertson has been a kind and fertile critic; for 29 years Leslie Preston has held my hand and later Teddy Cusdin has supplied, so far as possible, my many deficiencies, and Maynard Smith has set a great example of efficiency. Stanley Hall's genial and unselfish head-

ship of our firm in those pre-war days was an episode all too short, and we still think of him and miss him. Our Secretary, Mr. James, contrives to present the illusion that the firm is very businesslike which, Heaven knows, it is not! He holds us together and gives us at any rate a façade of efficiency, and our wonderful team of assistant architects so far have enabled us to avoid any major disaster. I take this opportunity of thanking them in particular.

About this time one should pay a tribute to one's wife. Mine has in fact refused any sort of tribute from me except that since we were married she has well and adequately fed me!

Now all I should like to do is to thank the speakers and the listeners who have so patiently listened. Perhaps it would be better to say that they have listened to delightful speeches and they have put up with mine.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> I am horror-struck to find that (according to the record) I failed even to mention the principal speaker of the evening—Hope Bagenal—whose clarity of thought and expression has been, for long, one of my special pleasures. I was honoured and grateful that he was willing to speak on my behalf and, in excuse, I can only say 'this comes of trying to speak extempore'. J. M. E.

## Report of the Committee on the Constitution of the Council

EARLY IN 1954, the view was expressed by some members that the constitution of the Council no longer reflected the composition of the general body of members adequately, and that in particular Associates were much under-represented.

Consequently, at their meeting on 4 May 1954 the Council set up a Committee to examine the whole question and to make recommendations.

The Council have accepted a number of recommendations from the Committee which will involve seeking authority for amendment to the Bye-laws. The appropriate amendments will be submitted to the general body of members in accordance with the provisions of Section 33 of the Charter of 1887 in due course, after which the sanction of the Privy Council will be requested.

In deciding to publish a full summary of the report, which follows, the Council wish to emphasise their complete approval of the views expressed by the Committee, to the following effect:

'There is a tendency, fortunately not widespread, to regard the Profession as composed of sections whose interests may come into conflict. They do not subscribe to this opinion. They regard the profession as a single entity composed of members whose ultimate interests in the advancement of architecture are identical. Sectional representation on the Council is neither necessary nor desirable, but the Council should be informed of the points of view of the various categories of membership.'

### SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

**1. Constitution and Terms of Reference.** This Committee of Council was appointed at the Meeting of the Council held on 4 May 1954 and consisted of the following members:—

- Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross [F], Honorary Secretary, R.I.B.A.—Chairman
- Mr. Thomas E. Scott [F], Honorary Treasurer, R.I.B.A.
- Mr. F. Charles Saxon [F], Chairman, Allied Societies' Conference
- Mr. J. Murray Easton [F], Member in Private Practice
- Mr. D. E. E. Gibson [A], Member in Official Practice
- Mr. G. Grenfell Baines [A], Associate Member of Council
- Mr. Bernard H. Cox [L], Licentiate Member of Council
- Mr. Leonard C. Howitt [F], Chairman, Salaried and Official Architects' Committee
- Mr. Thomas S. Cordiner [F], Representing the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland
- Mr. R. H. Uren [F], Representing the overseas Allied Societies
- Mr. Kenneth J. Campbell [A], Representing the Association of Building Technicians on the Council.

The following terms of reference were given to the Committee:—

- 1. To review the recent constitution of the R.I.B.A. Council in all its aspects and to

report in particular on the following questions:—

(A) Is it representative of the various classes of membership? If not, should it be?

(B) Is it representative of the various sections of the architectural profession? If not, should it be?

(C) Should any change be made in the system of representation of Allied Societies?

(D) Should any change be made in ex-officio representation?

2. Should any change be made in the system of classes of membership of the R.I.B.A.?

3. Arising from 1(A) and 2 to review the applications of the provisions of Clause 4(c) of the Supplemental Charter of 1925.

4. To consider the effect on the Charters and Bye-laws of any recommendations arising from the above, with particular reference to Bye-law 34 as to the election, tenure of office, etc., of the Council.

5. To make recommendations to the Council on all these matters.

**2. Classes of Membership.** The Committee first reviewed the classes of membership of the R.I.B.A. and the qualifications required for each.

(a) *The Licentiate class.* Since 1934 the class of Licentiates has been open only to those whose names are on the register maintained by the Architects' Registration Council of the United Kingdom. Admission to the register is now open only to those who qualify by means of the R.I.B.A. Final or equivalent Examinations. Admissions to the Licentiate class in 1948 were 98 and had dropped to 33 in 1953.

The Committee therefore recommended that from 31 December 1955 further admissions to the Licentiate class be discontinued. This recommendation was approved by the Council at their meeting on 7 December 1954 and a notice to that effect was published in the JOURNAL for January 1955.

(b) *The Fellowship.* The Committee gave careful consideration to the Fellowship and to its relation with the Associateship in functions, number and qualifications required. The present proportion of Fellows to Associates is 1 to 5.7, as compared with an average in other comparable professional institutions of 1 to 3.4. This disproportion is, however, of recent origin, caused by the influx of Associates since the war. In 1945 it was 1 to 2.6.

Since 1945, the Associateship class has more than doubled in number. In 1945 there were 5,041 Associates and in 1954, 11,333. The records were examined with a view to determining how many of these Associates are at present eligible to become Fellows if they wish. It is estimated that

about 1,150, or 10 per cent, are now eligible.

With respect to a criticism sometimes made that the Fellowship class has been 'diluted' by the admission of an undue proportion of members not fully qualified by examination, the Committee considered the statistics given in Table I compiled as at December 1953.

From these it will be seen that 86.6 per cent have been subjected to some form of examination, while 13.4 per cent have not. But of the latter 4.4 per cent will not recur.

It was considered that these statistics disprove the above criticism.

A suggestion that the Fellowship should be converted to a strictly limited class recruited by selection instead of application was also considered, but the Committee saw no strong arguments for abandoning a tradition of a century's standing.

The Committee were satisfied that there was nothing wrong in principle with the present system in which the distinction between Associates and Fellows is very largely a matter of the length of experience in the practice of architecture. Since the qualifications required for the Fellowship were last determined in the Supplemental Charter of 1925, there has been a great development of public service. The qualifications laid down in the Charter did to some extent operate to the detriment of salaried architects. After seven years' experience, a principal in private practice could proceed to the Fellowship without any form of examination: a comparatively small proportion of salaried architects having the status of Heads of Departments were treated similarly, but the great majority had to satisfy the Fellowship Examiners as to their being in a position of responsibility for the design of architectural work. The term 'position of responsibility' was at present, in the opinion of the Committee, too rigidly interpreted, and they thought that some wider interpretation should be given so as to place salaried architects on a more equitable footing with principals in private practice.

The Committee's recommendation was approved by the Council at their meeting on 4 January 1955 in the following form:—

'That in future admission be open to two

classes only of corporate membership, the Associateship and the Fellowship: that the Fellowship be regarded in the nature of a senior section of the Royal Institute composed of persons qualified by age, ability and experience in responsible positions in the practice of architecture.'

The following extension of the foregoing principle was also approved by the Council with a view to making provision for the admission of suitable and qualified candidates engaged in research or literary work, teaching, etc., connected with architecture:— 'Associates engaged in other work may be regarded as eligible for the Fellowship if, in the opinion of the Council, their position and attainments make it desirable.'

The Council approved of these principles being put into effect by slightly widening the interpretation of the term 'position of responsibility', and they also approved the following further recommendation:— 'That all candidates without exception be required to submit to the Fellowship Examiners drawings and photographs or examples of work, and to attend for an interview which may, however, be dispensed with at the discretion of the Examiners.' This wider interpretation of the provisions of the Charters is within the competence of the Council and requires no amendment to the Charters or Bye-laws.

The approval of these recommendations does not affect the status and treatment of existing Licentiates or the procedure for the admission of Licentiates to the Fellowship class, which remains as at present.

The new procedure for election to the Fellowship, involving submission of work to the Fellowship Examiners by all applicants, will come into force on 1 January 1956.

**3. Entrance Fees and Subscriptions.** The Committee reviewed the question of entrance fees and subscriptions, and on their advice the Council decided that there should, at any rate for the present, be no change in subscriptions. It was, however, decided that the entrance fees as set out on page 25 of the current R.I.B.A. Kalendar should be amended to read as follows:—

Fellows 10 guineas, Fellows if proceeding from class of Associates nil, Associates

Table I. Analysis of Fellowship Class as at December 1953

| Elected from                                           | Number | Percentages | Notes                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Associate Class .. .. .                                | 1357   | 65.87       | Qualified by examination<br>Qualified by Licentiate-Fellowship Examination (Design) |
| Licentiate Class .. .. .                               | 427    | 20.75       |                                                                                     |
| Licentiate Class .. .. .                               | 92     | 4.47        | Over age 60. Submission of drawings                                                 |
| Outside under special non-recurrent conditions .. .. . | 91     | 4.46        | Absorption of Society of Architects                                                 |
| Outside under special provisions of charters .. .. .   | 90     | 4.45        | Almost entirely overseas on recommendation of Dominions Allied Societies            |
| Totals .. .. .                                         | 2057   | 100         |                                                                                     |

5 guineas, Licentiates 5 guineas. The effect of this is that Associates proceeding to the Fellowship after 1 January 1956 will pay no further entrance fee.

**4. Constitution of the Council.** The Committee then reviewed the present composition of the Council as laid down in Bye-law 28, in the light of their study of the classes of membership and the changes therein approved by the Council.

The following is the present composition of the Council:—

**(a) Elected by Ballot of the General Body.**

|                                                                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| (1) Must be Fellows—President,<br>2 Past Presidents plus 18 ordinary<br>members .. .. . | 21 |
| (2) Must be Associates .. .. .                                                          | 9  |
| (3) Must be Licentiates .. .. .                                                         | 3  |

**(b) Elected or Appointed by Allied and Other Societies**

|                                                                                               |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| (1) Must be Fellow—Chairman,<br>Allied Societies' Conference (as a<br>Vice-President) .. .. . | 1  |
| (2) Any Class—In U.K. .. .. .                                                                 | 26 |
| (3) Any Class—Overseas .. .. .                                                                | 5  |

**(c) Appointed by Council**

|                                                                             |   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Must be Fellows—1 Vice-President,<br>Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer .. .. . | 3 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|

**(d) Ex-Officio**

|                                                                                                                        |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Must be Fellows—Chairman,<br>Board of Architectural Education,<br>Chairman, R.I.B.A. Registration<br>Committee .. .. . | 2 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|

**(e) Appointed by a Committee**

|                                                                  |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Any Class—Salaried and Official<br>Architects' Committee .. .. . | 2 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---|

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Must be Fellows .. .. .     | 27 |
| Must be Associates .. .. .  | 9  |
| Must be Licentiates .. .. . | 3  |
| Any Class .. .. .           | 33 |

|                                                                    |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Elected by General Body .. .. .                                    | 33 |
| Elected or appointed regionally or on a<br>corporate basis .. .. . | 32 |
| Ex-officio or nominated .. .. .                                    | 7  |

Two propositions which had been put forward were considered. First, that an insufficient proportion of the Council are elected by a truly democratic process through the vote of the general body of members. Secondly, that the composition of the Council does not properly reflect the composition of the general body, Associates in particular being much under-represented.

The Committee thought that the first

proposition was to a great extent a misconception, and it was pointed out that of the 72 members of Council, 33 are in fact elected by ballot, while a further 30 are elected or appointed on a constituency basis by Allied Societies distributed geographically. The Committee could see no arguments for any radical reorganisation of the representation of Allied Societies, and were satisfied with the present proportions by which roughly half the members of Council are elected by the general body as a whole, while the other half are elected by and represent the general body in regard to regional geographical interests through the Allied Societies. The Council concurred in this opinion, but referred the question of the method of appointment of Allied Societies' representatives to the Allied Societies' Conference for consideration with a view to obtaining assurances that these appointments were, in fact, able to be influenced by the wishes of the general body of members of each Allied Society.

With regard to the second proposition, the Committee pointed out that the 18 Fellows, 9 Associates and 3 Licentiates were, in fact, elected by the whole general body in the United Kingdom and Ireland, and to say that Fellows represented Fellows, Associates represented Associates, etc., was a misconception. There was, however, thought to be more substance in the contention that the opportunities for Associates to be elected to the Council are unduly limited in regard to the size of the Associateship class.

A suggestion that there should be a single list of 30 corporate members instead of designation by classes was considered. The arguments in favour were that every corporate member has an equal responsibility and interest in the Institute and that it is neither necessary nor desirable for the various classes of membership to be specifically represented in the deliberations of the Council. Against this, a single list could result in the exclusion of any one class of membership from the Council. Moreover, the Committee, while accepting that classes of membership should not be represented sectionally on the Council, think it important that there shall be available in the deliberations of the Council representative opinion of each class of member and of all ages.

The other extreme was also considered, i.e. of designating classes in strict proportion to the numerical strength. While the problem of a constantly changing constitution of the Council in proportion to the varying numbers in each class of membership could be met by framing the Bye-laws appropriately, the provision for retirement by rotation would be complicated, and it was not thought that the arguments in favour of such a measure carried any conviction, especially in the light of the definition of the relationship between Fellows and Associates set out in 2(b) above. It was agreed that while there was a need for the Council to have available the opinion and outlook of a proportion of younger members, it should be composed of the best men available, and to a great

extent these would tend to be members with some years' experience and responsibility, especially those with sufficient freedom to devote time and thought to the work of the Council.

The Committee's conclusion was neither in favour of a single list of corporate members nor of strictly proportionate representation by classes. They thought, however, that there was some argument for a modification in the balance between Associate and Fellow members on the Council.

They therefore recommended that an amendment to Bye-law 28(e) should be secured so as to provide for the elected members of Council to consist of 9 Fellows, 9 Associates, 3 Licentiates and 9 corporate members of any class. (Note: The present proportions are 18 Fellows, 9 Associates, 3 Licentiates.)

The Council approved this recommendation and directed that drafts of the amended Bye-laws to put it into effect should be prepared for submission to the general body of members.

The machinery for the annual elections of Council will also have to be revised, and the Council approved of the following system:

That each year 3 Fellows, 3 Associates, 1 Licentiate and 3 corporate members shall retire, and a single list of 10 corporate members be voted for. From this list, the 3 Fellows, 3 Associates and 1 Licentiate with the highest number of votes shall be elected to fill the vacancies reserved by class, and of the remaining candidates the 3 with the highest number of votes shall fill the 3 places reserved for corporate members of any class.

Once the new system was in operation, these members would be elected for a three-year period of office. They would be eligible for re-election for a second period; but, as at present, would not be eligible to serve continuously for more than six years.

With regard to the Honorary Officers, the Council concurred in the Committee's view that the President, two Past Presidents, four Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer ought to be Fellows, and that the present procedure for their appointment is right and proper.

The Committee then considered the ex-officio representatives and those nominated as representative of the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee. They saw no reason to make any change in regard to these and the Council concurred in this view.

The Committee also gave attention to the question of the Chairmen of Committees of the R.I.B.A. generally being ex-officio members of Council. In view of the policy that every member of Council shall serve on one or more Committees and that all Committees should have in their membership one or more members of Council, it was agreed that there was no case for increasing the membership of the Council by the ex-officio appointment of Chairmen of Committees.

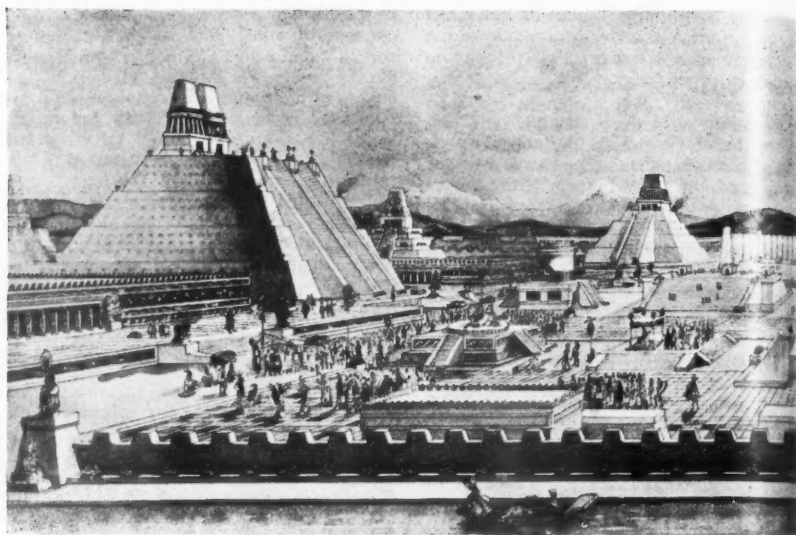


# Exhibition of Mexican Architecture

Opened at the R.I.B.A.  
by H.E. the  
Mexican Ambassador,  
Señor Francisco A. de Icaza  
The President in the Chair

The President, asking the Ambassador to open the exhibition, thanked him for bringing it to the R.I.B.A. and said he would describe it as one of the best exhibitions we had ever had. It was interesting to note the growth from the ancient art and to see that modern architecture had grown out of the same sort of style and not from a superimposed foreign style.

The Ambassador in his turn thanked the R.I.B.A. for giving hospitality to the exhibition. He said that the firmest friendships between peoples were those based on cultural relations, which led countries to an understanding of their respective characters and ways of living. It was this conviction and the desire to draw closer the ties of friendship between Mexico and the United Kingdom which had moved his country to present in London the three exhibitions of the last two years—that of ancient and modern Mexican art shown at the Tate Gallery in the spring of 1953, the Mexican book exhibition at the National Book League at the beginning of this year and now this present exhibition of Mexican architecture. He thought the present exhibition had a special importance, since what better exponent was there of the being and



Tenochtitlán. A reconstruction of Aztec culture

living of a country than its architecture? The Ambassador quoted Burckhardt's statement that 'The character of nations, cultures and epochs speaks to us through their architecture as if that were the outward expression of their existence'.

The Ambassador then went on: In going round the exhibition presented by the Society of Mexican Architects and the National College of Architects of Mexico, you will see for yourselves the path traversed by Mexican architecture in the last 3,500 years, from the sacred city of Cuicuilco, with its circular-based pyramid, to what is today, in 1955, being built on the same site: the great University City.

You will see examples of the Nahua and Olmec arts and from the section on Mixtec-Zapotec architecture, with its marvellous cities of Monte Albán and Mitla, you will



The cathedral of Puebla

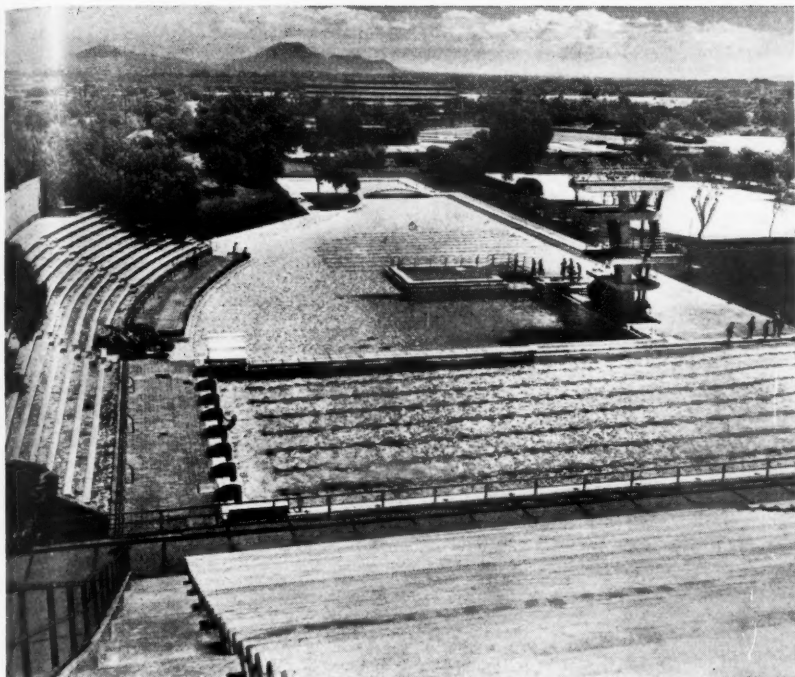


Mexico University. The Medical School. Architects: R. A. Espinoza, P. R. Vázquez, R. T. Martínez and H. Velázquez

come to the Teotihuacán culture, with its enormous pyramid of the Sun and the Temple of Quetzacoatl. After the display of the Toltec culture, you will arrive at the most important of all the architectures of America, that erected by the Mayas—those great artists who left to posterity the imposing monuments of Palenque, Copán, Uxmal and Chichén Itzá.

The prehistoric era of the Mexican culture finishes in the section dedicated to the Aztec epoch, of which, unfortunately, very little is left to us, and nothing remains of its most important manifestation, the temples and palaces of ancient Tenochtitlán—now Mexico City—which were totally razed to the ground during the Conquest; but we are told of its grandeur in the descriptions contained in the letters of Hernán Cortés to the King of Spain and in Bernal Díaz del Castillo's account who,





Mexico University. Arena for water sports. Architect: Félix T. Nuncio



Pyramid of Mayan culture, Yucatan

During the three centuries the Colony lasted, the styles which flourished were, first, the Franciscan-Gothic (with its Plateresque forms), of which remain such notable examples as Cholula, Actopan and Acolman.

With the Herreran style which followed,

the Greco-Roman grandeur and classicism flourished, skilfully modified in the case of the Cathedral of Mexico by Plateresque ornamentation.

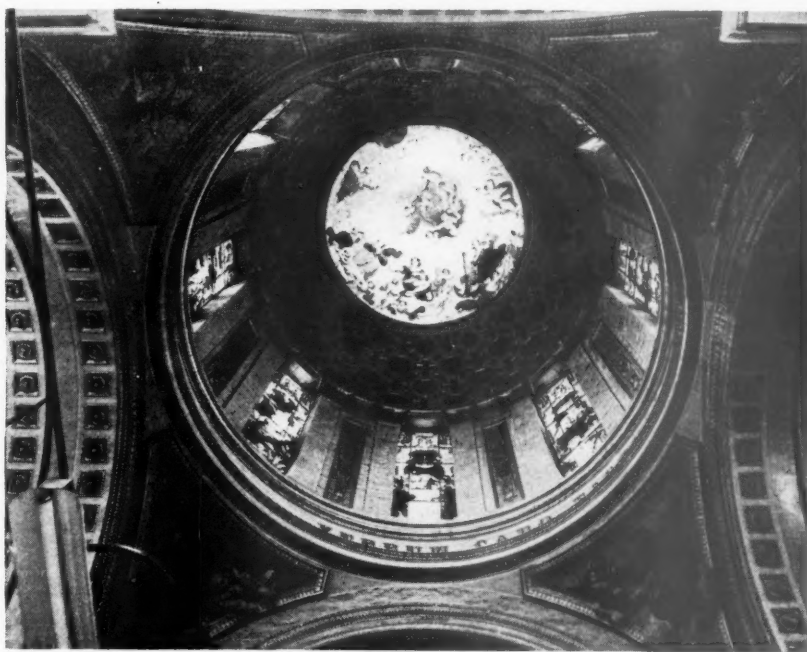
The Baroque style became naturalised and of the four different forms it took I should like, in particular, to mention here the Talaveresque, with its beautiful mosaic adornments, which can be admired in San Francisco Acatepec and in the Casa de los Azulejos, and the Churrigueran style, with skilfully integrated Baroque structures and copious Gothic decoration, of which notable examples are El Sagrario and Tepoztlán.

The nineteenth century, in bringing political independence, saw the opening of a new era for the architecture of my country, one in which it was exposed to the influence of European architecture as well as to the struggle between religion and philosophy. In this period, Mexican architecture, which has passed from the Baroque to the Neoclassic, arrives at the Positivist, neglecting Mexico's wealth of folklore and its plastic of extraordinary beauty.

But at the beginning of the present century, with the revolutionary movement of 1910, which marked the fall of Porfirio Díaz's dictatorship, the extraordinary essence of authentically Mexican art was born again, springing up everywhere.

And so we arrive at the period of "the peace of our Revolution", to the Mexico of 1955, in which the concept of static style is definitely abandoned and in which the aesthetic and the social, the useful and the logical, are skilfully combined with the finest traditions of the original Mexican architecture.

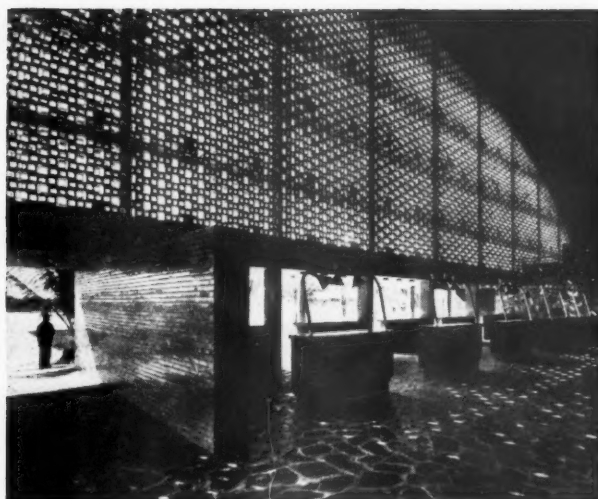
The Ambassador concluded: Allow me, with my last words, to pay the homage of my



The dome of the Temple of Carmen, Celaya, Mexico. Architect: F. T. Guerrero

when describing the city, said that "it resembles the tales of enchantment recounted in the book of Amadis of Gaul, with its great towers and pyramids and edifices standing in the water, and all so solidly built, and even some of our soldiers were asking themselves if what they saw was indeed a dream. . . ."

The arrival of Hernán Cortés in Mexico in 1519 put an end to the era of native architectural art, which had known no foreign influence of any kind, and began a new epoch in which Mexican architecture reflected Western art, although very soon the sensitivity and skill of the Mexican transformed the imported styles and infused them with the people's own personality.



Airport, Acapulco. The concourse. Architects: M. Pani and E. del Moral



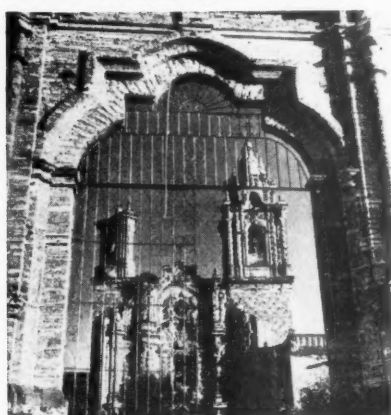
Flats, Mexico. Architects: M. Pani, S. Ortega, J. de Jesús Gutiérrez, J. de Rosenzweig



National auditorium, Mexico. Architects: P. R. Vázquez, F. Beltrán, F. Peña and R. G. Delsordo



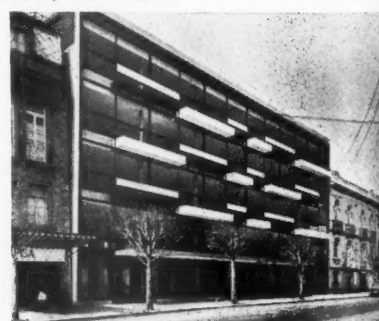
Ministry of Communications and Public Works, Mexico. Architects: C. Lazo, R. Cacho, A. P. Palacios



Church of St. Francis, Acatepec



Mixtec-Zapotec wall, Mitla

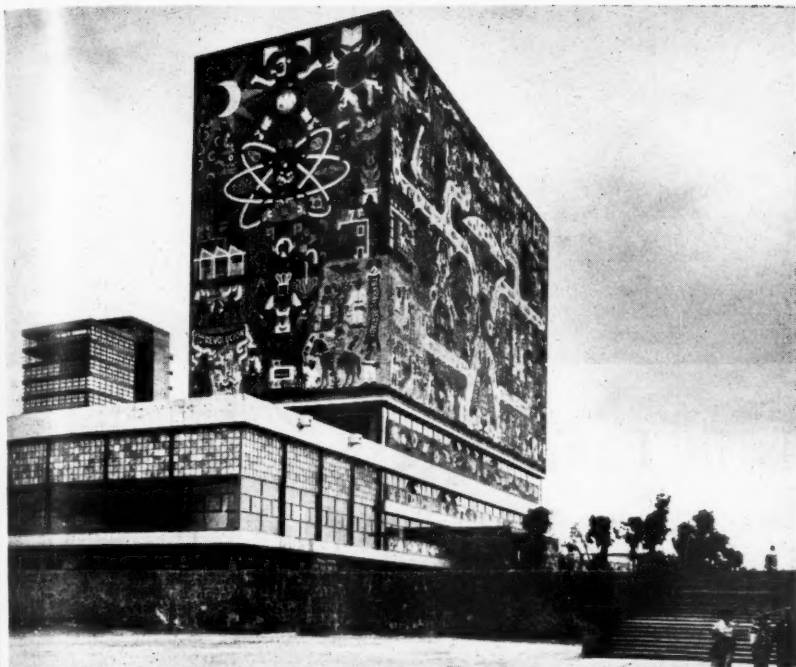


Office building, Mexico. Architects: R. de Robina and J. O. Monasterio

personal admiration to the architects of my country, who make me feel really proud of them when declaring open this Exhibition of Mexican Architecture.

Mr. E. D. Jefferiss Mathews, Vice-President R.I.B.A., proposing a vote of thanks to the Mexican Ambassador, said: Those of us who have not yet had the opportunity

of visiting your country I think conjure up in our minds a country of romance and adventure, thrilling our imagination. This exhibition has most certainly confirmed this in the field of architecture and it has done more because it has shown the very great antiquity and tradition on which your country is based. I think that when we have



Mexico University. The library. Architects: J. O'Gorman, J. M. de Velasco and G. Saavedra



The Hospital of Jesus, Mexico. The first hospital in America

had an opportunity of studying this exhibition more closely we shall be thrilled by the contributions and progress of the developments of your country in architecture based upon that wonderful tradition.

Mr. Jefferiss Mathews thanked the Ambassador for his personal work in preparing and producing the exhibition, and concluded: We feel honoured to have here the first exhibition of Mexican architecture to be held in this country.



Detail of Toltec temple at Tula



Terrace housing. Architect: L. G. Rivadeneyra



Crucifix in the garden of a house in Mexico. Architect: J. S. Madaleno



Sculpture on the Ministry of Communications and Public Works. Sculptor: F. Zúñiga





View of model from the south-west

## Low Cost Schools in Lancashire

By G. Noel Hill, M.T.P.I. [F], County Architect, Lancashire

COSTS BELOW the maximum place costs of the Ministry of Education have been obtained in Lancashire by a simplified form of traditional construction with a proportion of prefabricated components.

The school illustrated is a prototype three form entry secondary modern which has been used for the 1953-54 and 1954-55 programmes, and is a development of an earlier form employing similar methods which had reduced costs. A proportion of prefabricated components have been used on the principle that the general contractor should have the job to himself until the roof is on, no specialist labour being required until this is achieved. General contractors have approved this advantage and there can be no doubt that this has contributed to lower costs. Using a basically traditional method of building, three objectives were fixed—construction must be sound, quick to erect and economical in cost.

Sound construction required a permanently weather-tight cladding under all conditions, and durable materials needing only small maintenance costs. The construction is based on a 20 ft. structural

grid with brick piers; external piers 1 ft. 10½ in. × 1 ft. 1½ in. reduced to 1 ft. 6 in. × 1 ft. 1½ in. at first floor. Internal piers 2 ft. 8 in. × 1 ft. 6 in. and steel beams spanning 25 ft. and 29 ft. There are three piers in each bay and the steel beams are fixed by the general contractor.

The ground floor is 5 in. in situ waterproof concrete, and the first floor and roof consist of prestressed precast concrete units 7 in. deep spanning 20 ft., all fixed by the general contractor. External bays are filled up to ground floor sill height with a cavity wall of 4½ in. brick and 3 in. Lignacite blocks, and with metal windows up to first floor ceilings. On the first floor a metal frame, integral with the windows, fills the entire opening. The lower part is covered externally by Corroplast sheets with a cavity wall of 2 in. Lignacite blocks behind. Classrooms, assembly hall and corridors have Granwood block flooring; the stage and gymnasium hardwood strip flooring, and the cloaks and lavatories granolithic. Internal walls are 4 in. Lignacite blocks, and all walls and ceilings are plastered. The heating chamber is on the ground floor

level with the main heating duct overhead in the ground floor corridor, feeding both ground and first floors.

The isometric drawing and section explain the construction and finish in greater detail, and the photographs of the model show the external design which has resulted from the form of construction. Amendments are being made—for example, the eaves unit is cumbersome to fix and the detail is being revised. This, together with other revisions affecting external design, are indicated on the perspective drawing, but the principle of construction will not be changed.

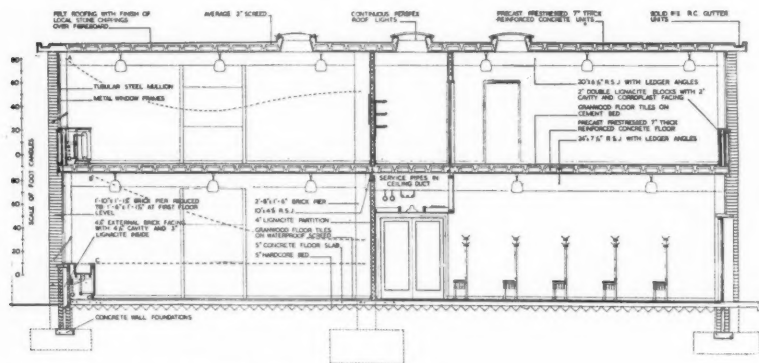
Erection has been comparatively rapid as excavation is reduced to small proportions, and the first floor and roof units quickly follow the piers and beams. This gives the contractor early protection from the weather to build up the internal walls which do not carry any structural load, and early cover is also given to the other trades. With good site organisation it is possible to build a three form entry secondary school in about 18 months. Two contractors will achieve this time and, after experience on this type of job, it should be possible still further to reduce the building period.

Costs have been surprisingly low and must be attributed both to the form of construction and to certain advantages to the general contractor. It is one answer to the economical use of the general contractor's labour.

Metal windows are standardised and all secondary schools in one programme year are combined for tender purposes.

The tables show tender prices and place costs for the two programme years in which this method of construction has been used, and a cost analysis is given for an average school in each year.

The members of the design research group working under Mr. Noel Hill were: Mr. G. S. Pester [F], Mr. C. A. Spivey [A], Mr. C. C. Bowring [A] and Mr. G. Ellis [A].



Section through main teaching block and cloakroom



Table I. Secondary Schools 1953-1954 (70 sq. ft. per place)

| Project            | Accommodation    | Cost Places | Tender   | Playing Fields | Gross Cost | Nett Cost | Cost per place |        | Date        |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------------|------------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------|
|                    |                  |             |          |                |            |           | Gross          | Nett   |             |
| Crosby .. ..       | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | £ 93,497 | £ 6,375        | £ 99,872   | £ 86,024  | £ 196          | £ 170  | August 1953 |
| Middleton ..       | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 105,500  | 6,375          | 111,875    | 96,635    | 218            | 190    | August 1953 |
| Lytham .. ..       | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 112,118  | 6,375          | 118,483    | 105,791   | 232            | 207    | August 1953 |
| Kirkby .. ..       | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 122,805  | 6,375          | 129,180    | 112,280   | 253            | 220    | August 1953 |
| Whitefield ..      | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 109,292  | 6,375          | 115,667    | 103,115   | 225            | 202    | August 1953 |
| Leyland (Ph.I.) .. | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 480         | 96,262   | 6,375          | 102,637    | 89,655    | 212            | 187    | August 1953 |
| Droylsden ..       | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 132,890  | 6,375          | 139,265    | 126,500   | 272            | 248*   | August 1953 |
|                    |                  |             |          |                |            |           | 71,608         | 71,424 |             |

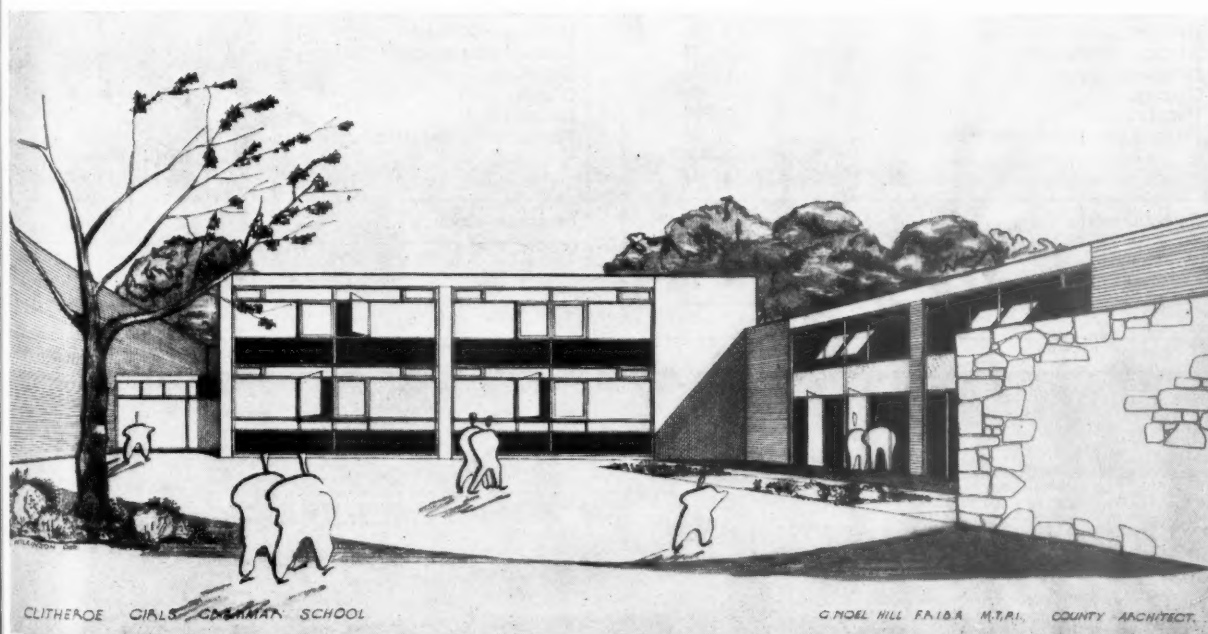
Average costs = 230 203.5

\* Abnormal cost due to provision of sewage plant, abnormal length of outfall drain, and reinforced concrete foundations.

Table II. Secondary Schools 1954-1955 (75 sq. ft. per place)

| Project                     | Accommodation    | Cost Places | Tender    | Playing Fields | Gross Cost | Nett Cost | Cost per place |        | Date        |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|------------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------|
|                             |                  |             |           |                |            |           | Gross          | Nett   |             |
| Ashton Hartshead            | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | £ 123,433 | £ 6,375        | £ 129,808  | £ 114,074 | £ 255          | £ 224  | August 1954 |
| Worsley Mount               | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 115,695   | 6,375          | 122,070    | 106,702   | 239            | 209    | August 1954 |
| Skip .. ..                  | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 103,798   | 6,375          | 110,173    | 98,173    | 216            | 193    | August 1954 |
| Kirkby Brookfield           | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 106,512   | 6,375          | 112,887    | 99,889    | 221            | 196    | March 1955  |
| Knowsley Woolfall           | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         | 118,122   | 6,375          | 124,497    | 111,101   | 244            | 218    | March 1955  |
| Denton Haughton Green .. .. | 3 F.E. Sec. Mod. | 510         |           |                |            |           | 51,175         | 51,040 |             |

Average costs = 235 208



Perspective sketch

MAY 1955

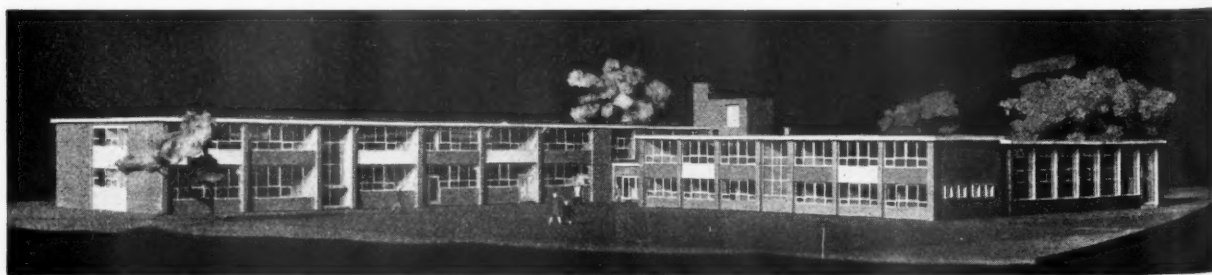
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Table III. Cost Analysis 1953-1954

|                                          |                                      |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Name of school .. .. .                   | Middleton Langley                    |
| Type of school .. .. .                   | Three Form Entry<br>Secondary Modern |
| Number of places .. .. .                 | 510                                  |
| Floor area (square feet) .. .. .         | 35,580                               |
| No. of square feet per place .. .. .     | 70                                   |
| Nett cost .. .. .                        | £96,756 2s. 8d.                      |
| Nett cost per place .. .. .              | £189 4s. 4d.                         |
| Nett cost per square foot .. .. .        | £2 14s. 4½d.                         |
| Gross cost (less playing fields) .. .. . | £105,500 0s. 0d.                     |
| Gross cost per place .. .. .             | £206 17s. 3d.                        |
| Gross cost per square foot .. .. .       | £2 19s. 3½d.                         |
| Tender date .. .. .                      | August 1953                          |
| <i>Cost per sq. ft. of floor area</i>    |                                      |
| <i>Element</i> .. .. .                   | <i>s. d.</i>                         |
| Preliminaries and insurance .. .. .      | 1 8½                                 |
| Contingencies .. .. .                    | 1 5½                                 |
| Work below ground floor level .. .. .    | 4 8½                                 |
| External walls and facings .. .. .       | 5 0                                  |
| Internal partitions .. .. .              | 0 11½                                |
| Frame .. .. .                            | —                                    |
| Upper floor construction .. .. .         | 4 11½                                |
| Roof .. .. .                             | 7 8                                  |
| Roof lights .. .. .                      | 3 0½                                 |
| Floor finishings .. .. .                 | — 7½                                 |
| Wall finishings .. .. .                  | 1 1                                  |
| Ceiling finishings .. .. .               | 2 1                                  |
| Metal windows .. .. .                    | — 10½                                |
| Doors (internal and external) .. .. .    | — 1½                                 |
| W.C. doors and partitions .. .. .        | — 4½                                 |
| Cloakroom fittings .. .. .               | 2 6                                  |
| Built-in fittings .. .. .                | — 5                                  |
| Fittings .. .. .                         | — 6                                  |
| Ironmongery .. .. .                      | — 2                                  |
| Plumbing—external .. .. .                | 2 0                                  |
| Plumbing—internal .. .. .                | — 7½                                 |
| Plumbing—sanitary fittings .. .. .       | — 4½                                 |
| Gas installation .. .. .                 | 3 4½                                 |
| Electrical installation .. .. .          | 4 0                                  |
| Heating installation .. .. .             | — 1½                                 |
| Kitchen ventilation .. .. .              | 1 4½                                 |
| Drainage .. .. .                         | 1 0                                  |
| Glazing .. .. .                          | 1 0½                                 |
| Decorations .. .. .                      | 2 2½                                 |
| Playgrounds and paved areas .. .. .      | Nett<br>Cost £2 14 4½                |
| External works .. .. .                   | 4 11½                                |
|                                          | Gross<br>Cost £2 19 3½               |

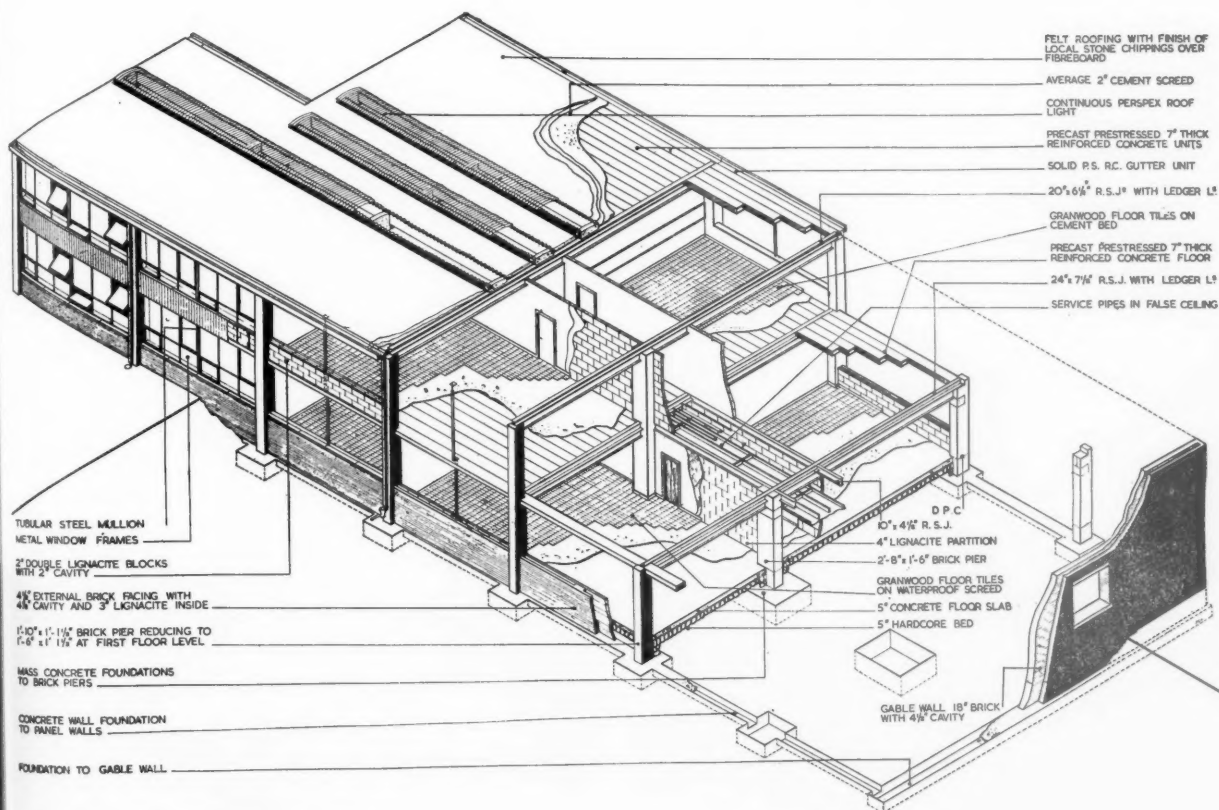
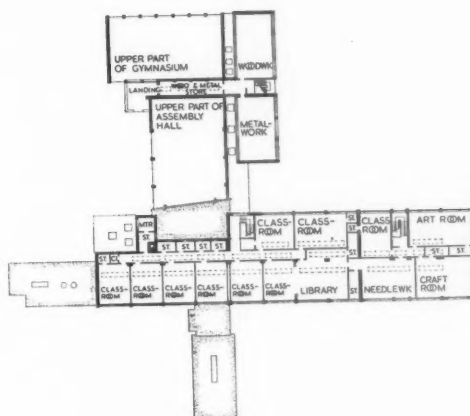
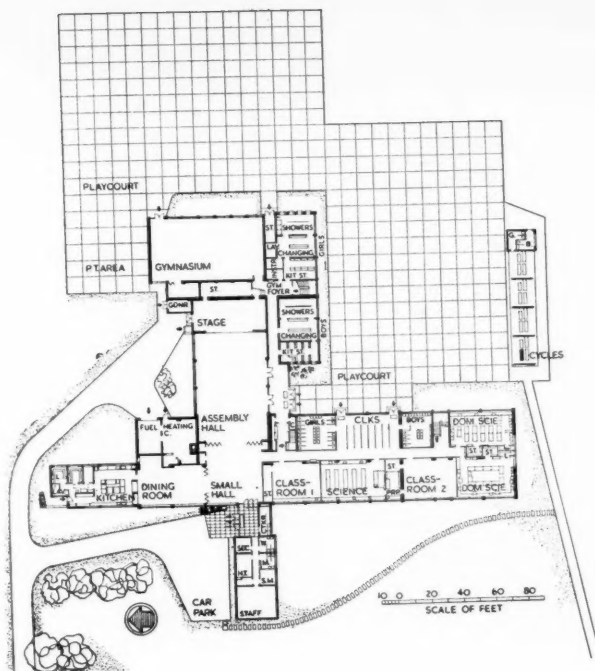
Table IV. Cost Analysis 1954-1955

|                                                 |                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Name of school .. .. .                          | Worsley Mount Skip                            |
| Type of school .. .. .                          | Three Form Entry<br>Secondary Modern<br>Mixed |
| Number of places .. .. .                        | 510                                           |
| Floor area (square feet) .. .. .                | 38,289                                        |
| Number of square feet per place .. .. .         | 75                                            |
| Nett cost .. .. .                               | £106,702 9s. 9d.                              |
| Nett cost per place .. .. .                     | £209 4s. 4d.                                  |
| Nett cost per square foot .. .. .               | £2 15s. 8d.                                   |
| Gross cost (less playing fields) .. .. .        | £115,695 0s. 0d.                              |
| Gross cost per place .. .. .                    | £226 17s. 1d.                                 |
| Gross cost per square foot .. .. .              | £3 0s. 5d.                                    |
| Tender date .. .. .                             | August 1954                                   |
| <i>Cost per sq. ft. of floor area</i>           |                                               |
| <i>Element</i> .. .. .                          | <i>s. d.</i>                                  |
| Preliminaries and insurance .. .. .             | 2 2½                                          |
| Contingencies .. .. .                           | 1 8½                                          |
| Work below ground floor level .. .. .           | 7 1                                           |
| External walls and facings .. .. .              | 5 0                                           |
| Internal partitions .. .. .                     | — 9½                                          |
| Frame .. .. .                                   | —                                             |
| Upper floor construction and staircases .. .. . | 3 11                                          |
| Roof .. .. .                                    | 7 5½                                          |
| Roof lights .. .. .                             | 3 8½                                          |
| Floor finishings .. .. .                        | 1 0½                                          |
| Wall finishings .. .. .                         | 1 1                                           |
| Ceiling finishings .. .. .                      | 1 11½                                         |
| Metal windows .. .. .                           | 0 10½                                         |
| External and internal doors (wood) .. .. .      | — 3½                                          |
| W.C. doors and partitions .. .. .               | — 3½                                          |
| Cloakroom fittings .. .. .                      | 1 11½                                         |
| Built-in fittings .. .. .                       | — 11½                                         |
| Fittings .. .. .                                | — 6½                                          |
| Ironmongery .. .. .                             | — 3½                                          |
| Plumbing (external) .. .. .                     | 1 2½                                          |
| Plumbing (internal) .. .. .                     | — 8½                                          |
| Plumbing (sanitary fittings) .. .. .            | — 1½                                          |
| Gas installation .. .. .                        | 3 2                                           |
| Electrical installation .. .. .                 | 3 6½                                          |
| Heating installation .. .. .                    | — 1½                                          |
| Kitchen ventilation .. .. .                     | 1 8½                                          |
| Drainage .. .. .                                | — 8½                                          |
| Glazing .. .. .                                 | 1 2½                                          |
| Decorations .. .. .                             | 2 1                                           |
| Playgrounds and paved areas .. .. .             | Nett<br>Cost £2 15 8                          |
| External works .. .. .                          | 4 9                                           |
|                                                 | Gross<br>Cost £3 0 5                          |

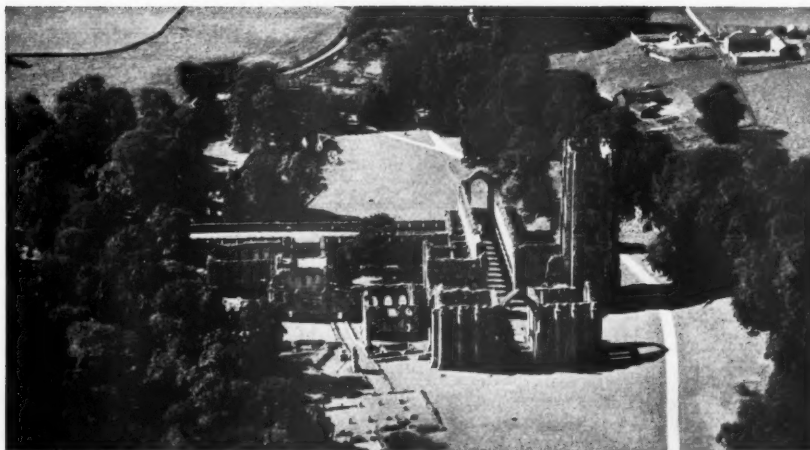


View of model from the south-east

Left: plan of the ground floor  
Below: plan of the first floor



Isometric projection showing main structure



Fountains Abbey

[Photograph: C. H. Wood (Bradford), Ltd.]



Howsham Hall

[Photograph: Herbert Felton, F.R.P.S.]



Byland Abbey

[Photograph: Herbert Felton, F.R.P.S.]

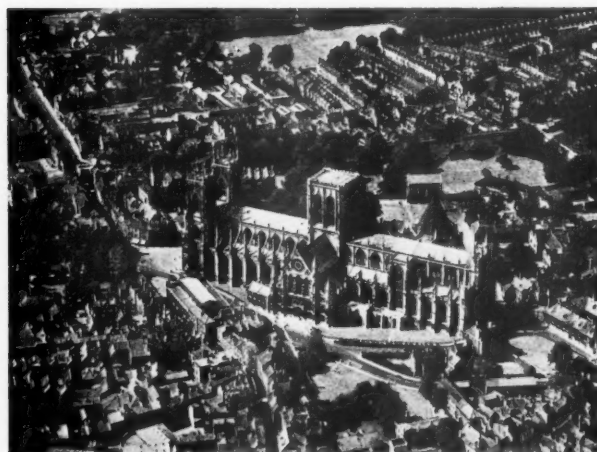
## Yorkshire Architecture

Some buildings to be seen in  
the Conference district



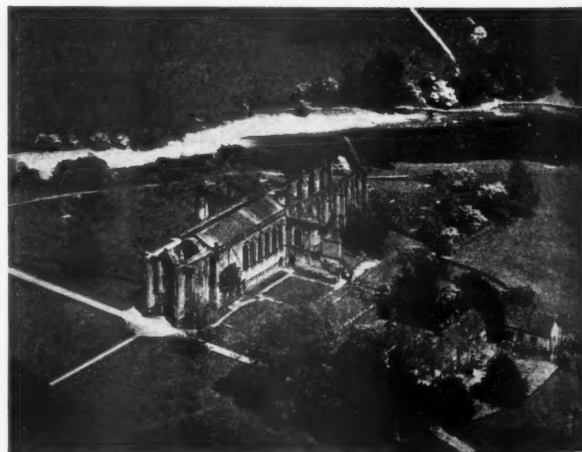
York Minster and Petergate

[Photograph: Herbert Felton, F.R.P.S.]



York Minster and its setting

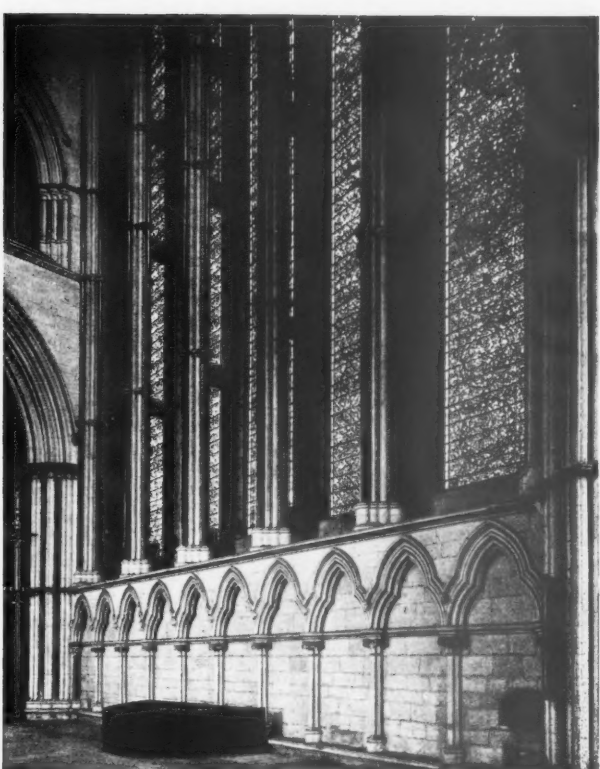
[Photograph: C. H. Wood (Bradford) Ltd.]



Bolton Abbey

[Photograph: C. H. Wood (Bradford) Ltd.]





Views in York Minster by Herbert Felton, F.R.P.S. Top left, looking from the nave towards the east end. Top right, the nave arcading from the south aisle. Bottom left, All Saints Chapel and Lady Chapel. Bottom right, 'The Five Sisters' windows, of grisaille glass, and the medieval cope chest

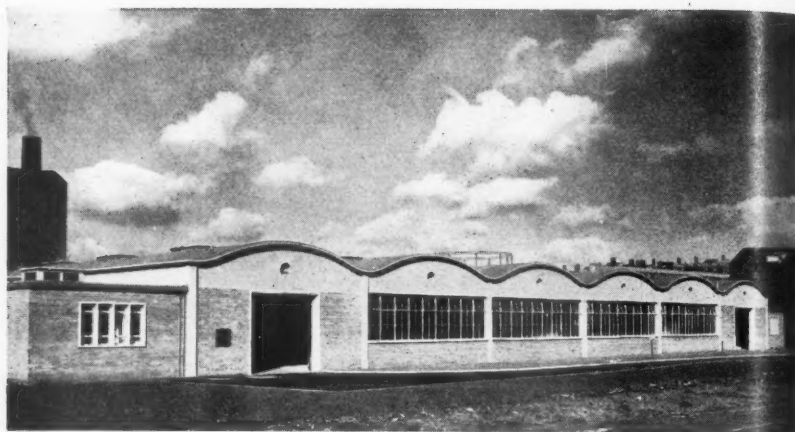


Old housing in Leeds. Camden Court, a typical slum demolished some years ago to make room for the Headrow development. In spite of extensive slum clearance in the past, the City of Leeds has still to deal with a large number of sub-standard dwellings

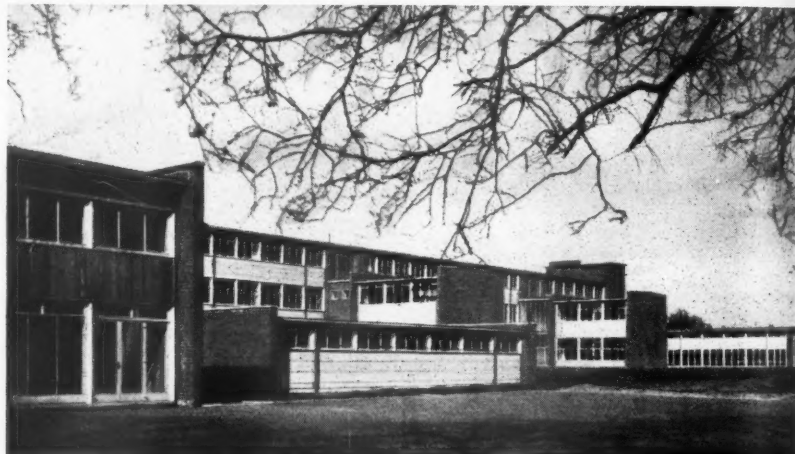
[Photo: W. Scruton]

#### New housing in Leeds

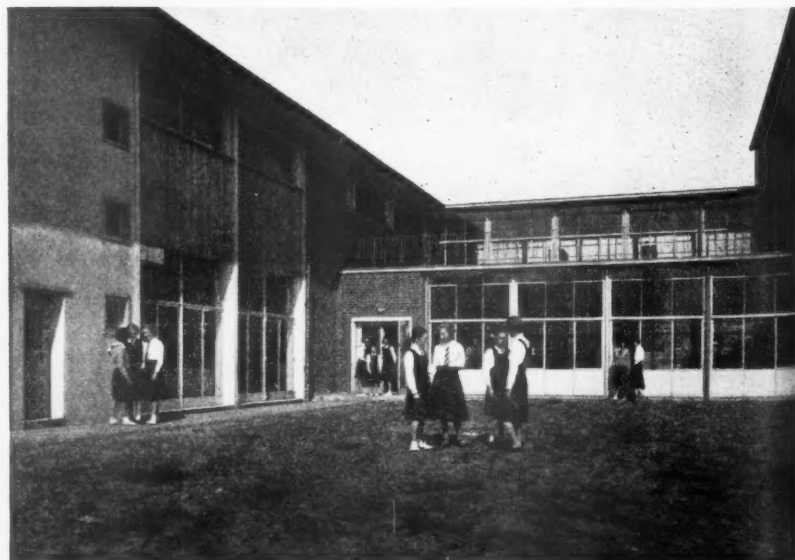
[Photo: The Yorkshire Post]



Leeds, Ambulance Station on a cleared slum site to house 50 ambulances. Architect: R. A. H. Livett, O.B.E. [4], City Architect

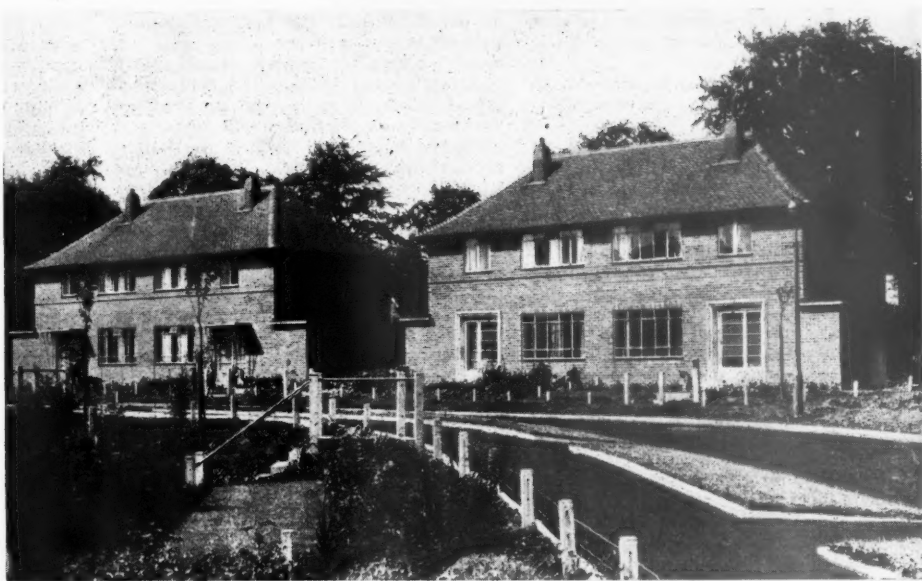


Allerton Grange Secondary Modern School, Leeds. A four-form entry mixed school for 600 pupils, built as part of the 1952-53 programme. Planned on an 8 ft. 3 in. grid, it is built in Presweld construction; the hall is steel framed traditional construction. Architect: R. A. H. Livett, O.B.E. [4], City Architect

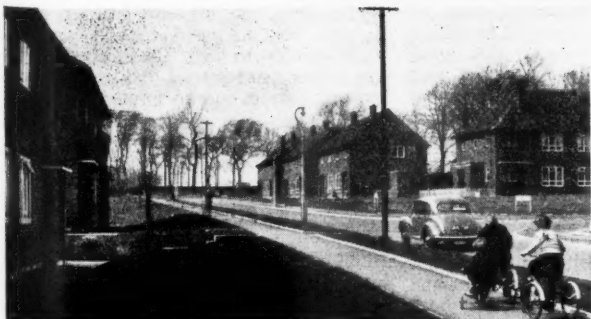




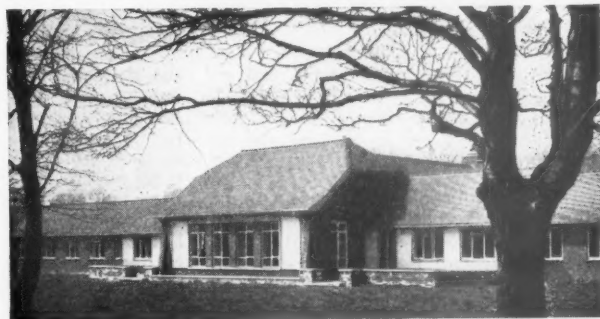
Interior of the West Riding County Architect's Office, Wakefield, which has been built in stages since the war. The views are of the main drawing office. Hubert Bennett [F], County Architect



A view in the Mount Estate, Leeds, a scheme of 88 houses completed in 1950. Great care was taken to preserve the natural planting and to add to it. Architect: R. A. H. Livett, O.B.E. [A], City Architect



A view in Moorfield House Estate, Leeds, a development about an old mansion with a bias towards the needs of old people



Brackenhurst hostel for aged persons on the Moorfield House Estate. Single and double bedrooms and a central unit of communal rooms





# The 117th Annual General Meeting of the R.I.B.A., 3 May 1955

The President in the Chair

**The President:** Before we take the formal business, may I say one or two words on a matter which is not on the agenda? I am sure you will be distressed to learn that Mr. Thomas Scott, our Honorary Treasurer, is to undergo a very serious operation tomorrow. I thought you might wish to send from this meeting a message of regret, also expressing the hope for his speedy recovery. *This was agreed unanimously.*

**The President:** I have to present the Report of the Council and Committees for the official year 1954-55 and to move that the Report be received. The Chairmen or other representatives of all the Committees whose reports are appended to the Council's Report have been asked to attend this meeting so as to be in a position to answer any question which anybody cares to raise and to give, I trust, reasonable answers.

**The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross, M.A. [F],** seconded the motion.

**Mr. H. Conolly [F]:** I think, first of all, as members of the R.I.B.A. we should congratulate ourselves on having the same President with whom we set off at the beginning of the Session. We are glad that you are here, Sir, and that you, with Mrs. Aslin, have recovered so completely from the unfortunate mishap at Stoke-on-Trent.

This is a very long and a very full Report and, whatever we think of it, we must admit that it shows the very great amount of work which is being done at 66 Portland Place. It is right and proper at this stage to congratulate you, Sir, your Council, the Chairmen and members of your Committees on the very good work which is being done here all the time. I think we should congratulate those who represent the R.I.B.A. on all sorts of outside bodies, work which must be sometimes dull—B.S.I. committees on door hinges and dustbin lids, for example. But this work is going on all the time.

After congratulating all the Chairmen and members of the Committees, we must not forget to thank Mr. Spragg and his colleagues for their continuing and efficient service. There are far too many of them to mention by name, but perhaps Mr. Spragg will take the thanks of the meeting to one and all.

I think most people would agree with the choice of the recipient of the Royal Gold Medal for this year—a very distinguished architect with a very fine record of buildings executed and buildings projected, but I am not sure that everybody is quite satisfied with everything else. It is almost impossible for you to please all of us all the time and

there may be some of us who are not pleased any of the time. It seems to me that as the captain of the ship of the R.I.B.A. you have at the present juncture to steer a very careful course between Scylla and Charybdis, if that part of my classical education is correct. As far as Charybdis is concerned, the Council have issued a very appropriate circular about breakaway societies, but as for Scylla, I was going to say something about trade unionism at this juncture but I will reserve my remarks until later.

The other important thing of this year is undoubtedly what we have learned to call the McMorran Report—or to give its correct title, *The Report of the Architectural Education Joint Committee on the Training and Qualification for Associate Membership of the R.I.B.A.* It has been rather long delayed but in my view it has been well worth waiting for. Some have said that it is not sufficiently revolutionary, but personally I never thought that architectural education was all that wrong anyway. I think the suggestions made in the Report are very well worth while. The only point which worried me was that about part-time education, which has been referred back for further study. When I learned that even today one-third of the entrants to the profession come up that way, it seemed to me that it was a subject which deserved urgent study. I came up that way. I may be old and out-of-date, but I still think it is not a bad way of entering the profession and I should like an assurance that the question of part-time study will have urgent attention and will not be shelved. As a member of the R.I.B.A. Visiting Board for twice as long as the period for which I was elected, I have seen work in evening schools, at least one in London, which was very little, if anything, below the standard found in a day school. I think that is a very important point.

I was very sorry to hear about Mr. Thomas Scott. I congratulate him as Chairman and the members of his Committee on good housekeeping finance for the past session. There is a very nice balance. It is not as big as last year but we knew it would not be. The building fund has a healthy look about it. We seem to have quite a lot of money. The only thing we are not told is the estimate for the extensions.

The membership figures also appear very healthy. In my opinion not enough people are prepared to take Fellowships, which I think is a pity. Now that entry to the Licentiate class has been closed, I wonder whether the time has not come for the F A L divisions, as it were, to be abolished

entirely and call us all members. Possibly we might reduce the Fellowship subscription and possibly we might want to charge Associates a little more.

We should congratulate the Hospitals Committee and the Public Relations Committee on the very excellent conference on the design of public health buildings. I think that was a very good start. We ought to have more, and if you have any ideas for the future perhaps you would let us know tonight.

The various committees have considered an enormous number of subjects, such as whether you can put a three-piece suite and settee into an architect-designed dwelling. A whole range of architectural subjects in one form or another has been discussed, but before I conclude there is one question which I should like to ask: there is a short note in the Report about the future constitution of the Council. We all know how some people get on the Council and some do not. We know how there is a tendency for people in London to get on. As a member of the Allied Societies' Conference, I should like to be assured that the Allied Societies' representatives will not be crushed out, as it were, because the R.I.B.A. is not just a London Society. The majority of members do not work or live in London; they live in the provinces and the provincial point of view must therefore always be presented here at Portland Place. The problem is not the same all over the country. The problems of the provincial men vary very much from place to place. I have not the slightest idea what the new constitution is to be, but I should like to be assured that the provincial men, the Allied Societies, will not be crushed out.

**The President:** Thank you. Before calling on anybody else to speak I should like to remind you that under the provisions of the Supplementary Charter 25, clause 9, page 26, while we are happy to see Students and visitors here, Students are not entitled to take part in the discussions and they have no right to vote. The meeting is open for discussion. I suggest that we turn to the printed Report and go through each item.

## REPRESENTATION OF MEMBERS AND STUDENTS IN SALARIED EMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Thurston Williams [4]:** I wish to move the motion which has been circulated amongst members present:

'With reference to the Annual Report, page 1, paragraph 7, on the Representation of Members and Students in Salaried Employment,

"That this Annual General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects does not support the Council's decisions concerning the representation of members and students in salaried employment as set out in their letter of 4 January. It instructs the Council to reconsider these decisions and bring forward fresh and definite proposals in line with the majority opinion of those who replied to the questionnaire."

I am aware that in moving the motion I am perhaps creating a piece of history for the Institute. I have been informed by the Secretary that no motion has been moved before this annual general meeting for 40 years. I therefore think that this motion perhaps needs some explanation. One of the explanations is before you in the size of the attendance at the meeting. This motion is before you because it is the feeling of a very large section of our membership that this matter should be discussed and not allowed to lie where it is at present.

The feeling on this matter is not contained within this hall. It goes further and is perhaps best expressed in a letter which Mr. Shankland and I received this morning from Birmingham. It reads, 'Dear Sirs, the undermentioned salaried architects in Birmingham wish to associate themselves wholeheartedly with the motion which you intend to move at the annual general meeting.' It is signed by 23 members. This is a feeling which can be found up and down the country. We are moving the motion so that the discussion and feeling on the matter can be canalised into positive form, use of which can be made by the Council. I think we can show tonight that the members of the Institute are interested most wholeheartedly in what is carried out by the Council and that they wish their views to be heard.

We have a slightly different situation today from that in the past when it could be said that the Council members represented wholly the members of the Institute, except perhaps for a few uppish assistants who thought they had an alternative point of view. On the whole, the Council could be said to represent the Institute.

Today the situation is slightly different. Many different and varied types of work are coming into being and it is not possible for the Council to represent all those new situations. These forms of employment are raising new problems, and it is only at a meeting such as this that the Council can fully appreciate the problems before them.

It seems to me to be the duty of all members who disagree with Council policy to discuss that disagreement openly with the Council, and the means by which we can discuss it is the annual general meeting.

Turning to the salaried members of our profession, with the exception of a few senior officers, we are a badly paid profession. Even those senior officers would not consider themselves well paid in comparison with leading surgeons, leading barristers or company directors. With all members below those senior architects, in

salaried employment, there is no such thing as a well-paid salaried architect. We have all known the experience of arriving at the site meeting to find, parked outside, the contractor's Jaguar, the agent's Consul, the foreman's Prefect; whereas, if we have been unable to obtain a Council car, we go by 'bus. We also know that we can gauge the importance of our profession when we compare ourselves with the man who sells us our paint, whose services are much more valued by his employer.

Even in those progressive County Councils, whose reputation is raising the standard of architecture generally, the true value of the architect is not appreciated. The men who gain them votes at elections, the men who gain their bronze and gold medals, do not receive their true worth in salaries. I do not think there is an Establishments Officer appointed who is not more concerned with giving the minimum salary appropriate to any one officer than with ensuring that men are appointed of the maximum ability. His job is made easier by the great differential in salaries existing throughout the country. If you work for X Rural Council or Y County Council or ABC chartered architects, your salary for doing the same job may vary by several hundred pounds.

I speak as one who has to carry out negotiations on behalf of about 500 architects and I know from my experience that it is very difficult indeed to raise the standards of those architects when comparisons are made with offices throughout the country. There is no accepted standard of what the status or salary of an architect should be.

The salaried architects have decided that it is time something must be done. We have agreed that there is need for certain action to raise the status of the salaried architect. We also have common ground in the R.I.B.A., if for no other reason than that our annual subscriptions are buried within it. We all look to it for guidance and assistance. The R.I.B.A. Council have recognised the need for doing something for the salaried architect and the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee have also recognised it. The conclusions in their Report, which have been circulated to us, have in the main received our universal support.

It is against this feeling that the effect of the Council's January letter must be seen. In my opinion the effect was deplorable. It has resulted in very considerable disappointment and very considerable cynicism amongst our members. It is not difficult to find the reasons for this if we look at the four decisions printed in that Council letter. May I take them one by one? First, 'that the Royal Institute shall not sponsor a new organisation of a trade union nature.' To my knowledge, they were never asked to sponsor a new organisation, but what 6,000 members said was that they believed that a trade union could best represent their interests. That point is not covered in the reply.

If a member finds no solution to the problem in (A) and turns to (B), he finds,

'That no one existing organisation shall be singled out for preferential support.' This leaves him with no organisation at all, for evidently the Council think none of them is suitable for preferential treatment and none has a special value.

A rather different view is taken by the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee. However, we have no satisfaction in (B) and we turn to (C): 'That members in salaried employment be advised that their interests will be best served by joining an existing organisation appropriate to their particular field of employment.' Is this the results of months of discussion? Is this the result of the questionnaire and the various letters—that we are to be told, simply, to join existing organisations? Three thousand of us are already members of those existing organisations. We want something a little more. What about the remainder who are not members of those existing organisations? Has the Council decision supplied the answer to the problem of the assistant in the private office? Who is to represent the assistant in the private office? No indication from the Council. Who is to assist the assistant in private practice? No indication from the Council. What of the assistant in the local government office who does not consider N.A.L.G.O. a satisfactory means of representing the views of architects? No indication of what action he should take. What of the assistant in a contractor's organisation? What is the appropriate organisation? No indication. What of the ephemeral B.A.G.—the only trade union I know with no membership and no reason for being in existence at all; but it is there. No indication of what should happen to it.

Therefore point (C), I fear, is, in the views of many members, no assistance and solution. I doubt whether 50 members of the Institute have joined any organisation as a result of this decision. Speaking of an organisation which I take it is appropriate, I know of no member who has joined as a result of this letter.

Point (D): 'That the Royal Institute will proceed actively to explore alternative means of attaining the agreed objectives of improving and strengthening the conditions of employment of salaried architects in all classes of employment.' The Council have not promised to leave no stone unturned but they go very near it. For we have discussed this *ad nauseam* in the technical Press and in the Institute.

May I, in passing, say how useful has been the assistance—and the discussions—we have received from the technical Press? It is the fact that we have been able to make known our views, generally amongst ourselves as well as within the Institute, which has helped, I am sure, to make this meeting a success.

Already half of our total members have expressed a preference as to what they think the Council should do. Why, then, is it necessary to seek an alternative? It is clear what the salaried architect wants. He has made his views known. The Council should now be considering the ways and the means to make those views effective.

A profession of 18,000 members must be capable of making its views known to the public, and it can do so if it is a united profession. It is our intention, and I am sure it is the view of all salaried architects, that it should be united within the Royal Institute; that unity should be with private practising architects or anyone else who is a member. It should be possible, through the Institute, to be a united organisation. If the Institute uses its influence in setting up a single organisation which can represent the salaried architect, then the status of the profession can be raised, because if we raise the status of the salaried architect, who forms the large majority of our members, we can raise the status of the whole profession. Six organisations cannot achieve this end as well as one, nor can the existing organisations, which have not the means to represent the views of architects or within which architects have not the means to represent their views.

We are therefore asking the Council to think again. Much of the work of the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee is of great value. We are asking the Council to make use of it. Let us start from the assumption that all salaried members want an organisation to negotiate for them and let the Council bring forward new proposals which will gain our support at a further meeting in this hall. I consider that our motion represents the minimum view of the salaried architect, and I therefore beg to move it.

**Mr. C. G. L. Shankland [4]:** In seconding the motion I want to remind everyone of the words which were used accompanying the questionnaire sent out in March last year: 'There is an appreciable degree of dissatisfaction among architects in salaried employment with the existing bodies concerned regarding their representation in negotiations affecting their conditions of service and salaries.' This was stated by the Royal Institute at that time as a fact. You may remember that the same letter made a number of other points and reported the views of the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee. Incidentally it reported that legal advice had been taken and that it was clear that the Royal Institute itself could not ever become a trade union or a negotiating body in that sense.

The letter went on: 'If there is a substantial demand for more effective representations it must be met by some organisation outside the Royal Institute but having its full support and good will.' Having made this very correct decision and analysis, the Council took a very bold and correct step and sent out a questionnaire to get the opinion of members on this matter. I think that in doing this the Council recognised that there was a new situation in our profession and that the demand of so many of its members in offices throughout the country was justifiable because it reflected a new situation in which so many architects felt themselves to be in the mid-20th century—a situation in which architects' responsibilities had increased, as had their potential ability with the aid of modern

techniques to contribute so much more to society, and yet their salaries and conditions of work and their professional status—as so many of the majority of the profession felt—did not reflect the true value of the work which they were doing, could be doing and should be doing.

Did the questionnaire reveal the answer to the query which was contained in the letter accompanying it? Did it reveal a substantial demand for more effective representation? Of those who replied, 63 per cent or nearly 6,000 members replied 'Yes'. I think the wording of the question is important. The Council seem to have lost sight of it in their letter of January. The question to which the answer 'Yes' was given and which I think the Council should take as a cue was this: 'Are you in favour of having a trade union composed wholly or mainly of architects and approved by the R.I.B.A. and would you join it?' They said that they were and that they would. I submit that this was a perfectly clear mandate to the Council and constitutes a substantial demand if ever there were one.

Furthermore—and this is important—about 2,400, or nearly half of those who answered 'Yes' to the question, were already members of some trade union organisation, yet they still wanted a trade union composed wholly or mainly of architects and approved by the R.I.B.A. Members of organisations, for instance such as N.A.L.G.O., could not be considered as satisfied with their present arrangements. Yet it is to these people that the Council now say, 'Your interests will best be served by joining an existing organisation appropriate to your particular field of employment'. That is a little silly.

In their letter of 4 January the Council have rejected the clear opinion of the members most concerned and they have also set aside much of the good work of their own Salaried and Official Architects' Committee. They have put the whole question back as if there had never been a questionnaire and as if there had never been this appreciable degree of dissatisfaction which the Council themselves recognised a year ago. I do not think the clock can be stopped. Our motion contains the words 'fresh and definite proposals'. These words, 'fresh and definite', were inspired by the Council's decision (D) of January in which they said, 'That the Royal Institute will proceed actively to explore alternative means . . .' That seems both stale and vague, in my view, and also somewhat of an insult to the Council's own Salaried and Official Architects' Committee; it is an insulting decision to the Committee as a brief for what they are meant to be doing in the light of that Committee's recommendations of a year ago and of all that has happened.

Finally, on the question of the unity of the profession. It may be said in the discussion that the existence of an R.I.B.A. approved negotiating body, a trade union, negotiating salaries will only serve to disunite the profession as a whole. This is quite untrue. Surely what damages the

profession as a whole is the existence of a badly paid and inadequately recognised section of it, wherever that may be, either among the majority of the profession who are salaried or among those who draw fees on the R.I.B.A. scale. The R.I.B.A. has control of its scale of fees which it can revise at any time and does revise from time to time. What surely we now want in the interests of both sections of the profession is an effective control of salaries. This can be provided only by a trade union working closely with the Royal Institute.

There are of course difficulties to be overcome. There is no successful negotiating body in this country which has not overcome very many more formidable difficulties than those facing salaried architects today. But the Institute itself has powerful assets in many directions. Surely the Council should now pay some heed to the feeling of the salaried architects, evinced so clearly by the meeting, and show some confidence in what its own members can do to build such an organisation which is now so badly needed.

**Mr. E. D. Jefferiss Mathews, Vice-President:** I speak in opposition to the motion. I feel that this is largely a matter of misunderstanding. The Council have given the matter most serious consideration. They are equally interested in the wellbeing of all members of the profession as are the section which we have heard speak tonight. But we have fully to appreciate the function of the Royal Institute and we must not lose sight of the fact that primarily the function is one of sponsoring good architecture and, in doing so, of course to watch the interests of the profession as a whole who go towards making that good architecture. But the status which the Royal Institute now has in the country must be most jealously guarded and the R.I.B.A. kept as independent as possible.

Perhaps I may mention briefly one or two factual points on the reasons which underlie the Council's decision. First, I think I should repeat that the questionnaire was not a referendum. That was made clear at the time it was issued. It was the Council's wish to ascertain the feeling in the profession and it had to be left to their wisdom to decide upon the action to be taken when that feeling was known. Secondly, there is the purely statistical point of the nature of the returns, bearing in mind that only about 50 per cent of all members replied. The Council were advised by their experts in this matter that it would be unwise to make a pro rata calculation to cover the remaining 50 per cent. The Council took the opinion of expert statisticians in this matter and it would have been unwise for them to have departed from the expert advice given to them.

Thirdly, there is the question which the Council studied at great length of the power of any negotiating body. It was found that any trade union or negotiating body depended tremendously upon its already established power and the number of members for whom it spoke. It was clear that any new negotiating body composed



solely of architects, to watch solely the interests of architects, would have been weak by comparison with the existing negotiating bodies and would undoubtedly have found it difficult to establish the power and force which existing negotiating bodies enjoy.

I come finally to what I think to be the most important point which has dictated the Council's decision on this matter. I mentioned earlier that the Council enjoyed the opportunity to obtain the direct ear of Ministers of various Government Departments with which we are concerned. Wider than that, we have an overall national status which is held in esteem very highly by a large number of other professional bodies. If it were known that associated directly with the Royal Institute, or sponsored by or directly supported by the Royal Institute, there was a single negotiating body, there is no doubt that our independent powers would be weakened.

We are now in a position, when a difficult situation arises—and you are aware, Sir, that it is frequently done—in which you, Sir, and others in office can obtain the direct ear of a Minister and put a case to him. In my opinion that provides an opportunity which is most important for the wellbeing of every member of the profession. If we were associated with a negotiating body, there is no doubt that the Minister would not be able to hear us independently and the power of the Institute would be lost in the wealth of channels of negotiation which would have to be gone through.

In view of that, I consider that the Council's decision is wise. In my opinion it has been made in the overall interests of all members of the profession, which it is the function of the Council to watch, and the Council have retained the R.I.B.A.'s high independent status with the Government and with the nation generally.

**Mr. K. D. Burbidge [A]:** May I support this motion? I think it calls for a great deal of consideration. I will not talk so much about the direct negotiating body aspect of our work but more about the examples which we get from a unified profession. I think we are a unified profession and should remain a unified profession because unless we do we shall be in even a worse state—and I do not think we are in a very good state now in many fields.

I am an architect to a large client company. I am salaried and I have to stand for the reputation of the profession in my company. It is important that I should be able to feel that I can turn to architects' work—the works of my profession—as good examples of any points which I may make. I should like to be able to say, 'Look at the report published by such and such a committee on such and such a subject, which expresses this matter in the best possible way'. If I can do that I can carry a great deal of influence with me, but if I have to argue the matter out myself it is not quite as simple.

I suggest that the Council should take notice of the fact that there are these

different grades of architect in the profession—that there are private architects, architects employed by client companies and architects employed by contractor companies, architects employed by consultants even and also architects in teaching. Each of those separate categories has its own particular problems. They must be able to feel that their particular problems have been considered, and can be seen to have been considered, by everybody who is interested in architecture. I suggest that some definite step should be taken to secure direct and definite consideration of the problems of those categories. The meeting will notice a reference to 'classes of architect.' I do not like that, but I will nevertheless accept it in the spirit in which I hope it was used.

**Mr. J. T. Tayler [A]:** In supporting the motion I have only two points to make. I am here with five other architects from Derby who have made the journey feeling that the occasion of this meeting, and particularly the motion, is one of sufficient importance to warrant our coming here to put forward our views. We are not the only people in the particular group of architects from whom we have come who would also like to put their views on record in favour of the motion. Unfortunately it has not been possible for everyone to come to the meeting.

Secondly, I want to answer points made by Mr. Mathews. It struck me as a rather thin argument to put to the members to say that because only a certain percentage, even though it were a majority, replied to the ballot, we must accept the advice of statisticians that the views represented in the ballot should not be applied for the remaining members of the Institute. It is true that no one wishes to suggest that these views should be transferred to other members but according to the very simple laws of democratic procedure, by which we govern our country, the views representing a majority of the people are usually accepted and acted upon. We feel that perhaps an analogy can be drawn with the political elections throughout the country in which we are shortly all to participate. We do not feel that this argument expressed by the Council is of particular importance.

Another point which Mr. Mathews made was about the liaison which can exist from time to time between the Council and Ministers. I think I can simply say that that cannot be such a successful method of procedure because of the plight in which the Institute now finds itself. We therefore feel that that was not a very important argument. We support the motion very strongly.

**Mr. C. R. Whittaker [A]:** I should like to support one point made by Mr. Mathews while at the same time supporting the motion. It concerns a fundamental problem in the production of good architecture which faces us all as architects and artists. I am in salaried employment and I am engaged on work which I find extremely stimulating and exciting. But in my present position I have no choice but to drop my

pencil at 5 p.m. and dash off home because I have a couple of private jobs on the go. I have not dared to work it out but they probably bring in 3s. to 4s. an hour. I have to do these things because it means that at the end of the year I am a little nearer to making my personal books balance. Some people have to spend their weekends doing surveys. One's personal life at home is cut into more and more and one is sometimes reduced to snatches of conversation on arrival home and on departure from home. Having left one drawing board, one is immediately facing another.

I believe that this type of life is not an exception for many young architects and it cannot lead to the production of good work. One must move far too quickly from the design of good building and its erection on the site to something else to do with administration. The result, which fundamentally can be attributed only to being badly paid in one's main work, is that the architecture with which one is concerned is not good. Like Mr. Mathews, I am concerned about the extension of the production of good architecture in this country, but I should like to support the motion.

**Mr. G. B. Oddie [A]:** I am not awfully in favour of trade unions as they are today and, when one considers oneself to be a professional man wearing a white collar—I put mine on specially tonight—it is a come-down to find oneself veering round to supporting this motion. But I think the Council must realise that in the minds of the great majority of our profession monetary considerations are very much secondary. We may be a lot of mugs, but we do put the value of our work before the value of the money in our pockets.

But things have come to a pass in which, in an increasingly egalitarian society, we are the people who are being brought down instead of the people who are going up. We are the depressed middle classes who are beginning to feel the pinch. If those classes do not do something about it very quickly we shall be pinched out of existence.

The Council must realise that the ordinary private member of the Institute is unable to see very clearly the logic behind the argument which the Council has put forward—that it is unable to negotiate on behalf of salaried members; because those salaried members see the Council negotiating quite effectively on the account of private architects. There may be good legal and constitutional reasons embodied in the Charter of the Royal Institute for which this apparently illogical argument is nevertheless very sound, but by its announcements and letters sent to members the Council has, I am afraid, given the impression that it is smug and complacent and has a tendency to be autocratic.

The membership of other unions, such as N.A.L.G.O., is largely composed of people who, worthy though they may be, have not for the great part undergone a long, arduous and expensive professional training. Such organisations are egalitarian;

they are people who have never been able to earn much more than £10 a week and they rather dislike the idea that anybody else should. Why should architects who are members of N.A.L.G.O. be any better off than clerks who are members of it? That, I think, is the attitude which pervades that kind of union and which renders them ineffective in putting forward the claims of architects. That is why there is so much weight behind the plea for a separate union consisting entirely of architects.

Most trade unions today we find dominated by a particular bias; the right hand hardly knows what the left hand is doing because the left hand is so damned active! But most unions consist of the people who were the working men—as the term used to be—and the workers as the term now is; and they are people who have very little other incentive to work than the money which it puts into their pockets at the end of the week. But why should an architects' union follow those lines? Why should an architects' union not break out into new ground? Why should they not form a union which is suitable for contemporary society, where we are all going to sink together if we do not swim together and where our sole aim ought to be to get the best out of the architectural profession? We can get the best out of the architectural profession only by raising people out of the depressed state in which most of them are at the moment. That is why, although I have very mixed feelings about trade unions in general, I support the motion.

**Mr. Kenneth J. Campbell [A]:** I have the honour, sometimes with difficulty, of representing the A.B.T. on the Council of the Royal Institute and it is therefore only proper that I should declare my special interest at the start. It seems to me that there are two or three possible avenues which have been discussed this evening and which have been commented on by the Council in their letter of January.

The first is the impossibility of the Royal Institute acting as a negotiating trade union. I think that by and large, although perhaps rather reluctantly, that is coming to be accepted by the members. Whether they accept it or not, it is a fact; and if it is a fact, it will be accepted in the long run by everybody. They had better accept it.

I have a very long experience of trade unions, not only of my own organisation, behind me in saying this: as far as the creation of a new union for architects is concerned, the difficulties and the dangers are such that while, if architects had the tenacity far beyond that which we have normally seen in them, it might serve their grandchildren, it would do little to bring home the bacon to those who are speaking now. Whatever the situation was 30 or 40 years ago when the A.B.T. started, the field is now very fully covered by extremely powerful unions extremely powerfully led by non-architects.

That leads to the possibility of the sponsoring of an existing organisation. Of course, that is where my special interest

obviously lies. I believe that the majority, if not all, of the people who are behind this motion are not members of the A.B.T. and apparently at the moment they do not consider joining. Probably there are two main reasons for which they do not join—and they can probably tell me in private afterwards that there are many more. The first is that they do not like it—which is quite a simple and straightforward reason; and the second is that it is in no way at the moment sponsored as a negotiating body by the Royal Institute. On the first point, if architects as individuals are going to wait until they find an organisation which suits them as individuals, they will wait forever. No organisation entirely suits everybody—not even all its members. But the essence of democracy and particularly the essence of a union is this: that the members can make it into an instrument of whatever fashion or type they wish. And I find it a little difficult to accept the wholehearted sincerity of those who bring forward the normal objections to the A.B.T.

Let us take them. First of all—this may not be the most important, but it is a reason—that it contains wild, long-haired revolutionaries like myself. In other words, that it is a Red organisation; I will not deal with that at all. Secondly, that it contains other people besides architects. I think experience does show and must show that in a large public office, and even in a small public office, the addition of surveyors and engineers must be an access of strength to any professional union. For one thing, whether we like it or not, all authorities insist on assessing their gradings of salaries commonly for all three professions.

I think I have put my finger on the two main points. There is also the point that the A.B.T. is affiliated to the T.U.C., which brings me to the point which Mr. Mathews made. While the R.I.B.A., which is a non-negotiating body, may have one ear of the Minister, negotiating bodies like the T.U.C. have him by both ears, and that is not always an unhelpful thing. Sometimes it is extremely helpful.

What is required is a union for architects which can speak for architects as a body and which does not have architects parcelled out amongst clerical bodies, administrative bodies of all kinds. That is what is behind the motion. They want an organisation which is closely tied with the Royal Institute—as closely as it possibly can be—and which will have the weight of the Royal Institute behind it.

I must say that I cannot see why we have to go back and back and back in this way. If only half the people who voted for a trade union were to join, for instance, the A.B.T., they could reshape it exactly as they wished. They could get rid of people like myself with the greatest ease—or perhaps not with the greatest ease, but they could change its character. They could have one type of professional man in and another type out. The organisation is there for them to take hold of and to control in any way they wished.

I am to this extent in sympathy with the

motion in connection with a closer sponsorship by the R.I.B.A.—and if this is what members who are behind the motion have in mind I will support it tonight. I think there is a case for the Council to reconsider its decision about the A.B.T. I doubt whether there is a case for the Council to reconsider its decision in any other way. To that extent I support the motion.

**Dr. R. Bradbury [F]:** I rise to support the Annual Report and to oppose the motion. I am a new member of the Council and have been impressed during the time in which I have had the honour to serve on it with the very great care and attention given to problems of this nature and many other problems which come before it. I want you to get out of your minds any idea that any single member of the Council is opposed to a general improvement of the conditions of employment and salaries of any single part of the profession. Every member of the Council is doing his best to improve the lot of the profession as a whole and, in particular, the lot of salaried members.

The Council did not take this decision lightly and it did not produce this document easily. It argued for and against this point and that point, but it came more or less unanimously to the opinion that, taking the long-term view, the course suggested in the letter was the wisest course to adopt. We have already heard a speaker representing a particular union admit that the establishment of any new union would accomplish little. That indeed was the opinion of the Council, which it put in its formal way in paragraph (A) before you in the letter.

We have had special pleading for one organisation and it would be equally possible for all the other organisations to make their special pleadings. Having said as its considered opinion that there is no value in establishing a new union, the Council therefore took the wise course of suggesting that no single existing union should be singled out for preferential treatment. It went on to make it clear that in its opinion members in salaried employment would be wise to join the appropriate union.

I am a member of N.A.L.G.O. and in my dealings with that body I have never found them any less interested in one section of the members whom they represent than in any other. I have always found that if a reasoned case is put to them they will fight it to the bitter end.

The important part is paragraph (D). Of course it has to be put in rather stilted phraseology. You would not expect the R.I.B.A. to put out as resolution (D). 'Atta boy, we are going to go places and give them hell'.

Let us analyse what this paragraph says. It says that the R.I.B.A. will pursue in your interests and mine every course open to it. I think that much more purpose would be served by this meeting if people would bring forward practical suggestions as to the avenues of exploration and the method by which the R.I.B.A. Council could pursue this matter for you. Let us be practical.

Let us have definite suggestions for the means of attaining the common desire of each and every one of us.

**Mr. J. S. Broome [4]:** The last speaker reminds me of my experience in the Army. I had three trays: 'In', 'Out' and 'Far too difficult'. The impression which I get is that the Council have put this matter in the 'Far too difficult' tray.

We have been asked for a practical line of inquiry and I suggest as a very first line some guidance to people like myself—I am a salaried architect—as to what is the appropriate union. At the moment I belong to two and neither of them seems to be getting me quite what I would wish. I support the motion because I firmly believe that any trade union or organisation which had the full support of the Royal Institute would be in a far better position to assist me in my problems as a salaried architect.

I must strongly deprecate any suggestion that this motion sets one section of the profession against another. In fact, the good of one is the good of all and I find it difficult to accept vague generalities that the Council is interested in the welfare of us all. What I want to see is more urgent consideration of the point which I have just put: what is the appropriate trade union for a salaried architect to join? Is there one, are there many, and what are the circumstances surrounding the choice which every serving member here will have to make? I suggest that that is a practical suggestion. I most strongly support the motion and recommend support for it on the lines which I have suggested.

**Mr. Maurice W. Lee [4]:** I support the motion but if it is carried I hope it will not lead to the formation of an orthodox trade union. I think this is a matter which should be dealt with within the R.I.B.A. and not in a separate organisation. The R.I.B.A. has an organisation which deals with the fees of private architects. Scales have been drawn up and supported by the Institute. I see no reason why the R.I.B.A. should not set up another organisation within the Institute which would look into not only the question of salaries of salaried architects but also the establishments of the offices in which they work.

Once that organisation has made its report and set up its scales, it should be possible for the profession as such to blacklist any office which does not measure up to those scales and possibly, too, to discipline any architect who accepts work in those offices. Within those terms I think we should refer this matter back to the Council and within those terms I support the motion.

**Mr. J. D. Kay [4]:** I support the motion but I appear to have carried out the Council's recommendations to the letter, for I am a member of three other organisations—the A.B.T., the Institution of Professional Civil Servants and, if it can be included, the Architectural Association. To be told now to join those organisations

is not enough, because they all have subscriptions, as has the R.I.B.A., and I appear to be paying the lot.

I do not wish to make a special plea for any of these bodies but as far as I can judge—certainly the first two—they would all be willing to co-operate with the R.I.B.A. in a new negotiating body, not necessarily one particular union.

**Dr. Bradbury** asked for examples of work which might be done by the body. I will give him one, leaving aside the important question of salary scales. It is the question of pensions. One outstanding feature in which the assistant in the private office differs from his colleagues in the public office is that he cannot expect anything like their security. Only very few of the larger private offices run any sort of a pension scheme and the assistant, who perhaps cannot afford to set up a practice of his own and has to remain a salaried assistant during his professional career, can look forward to nothing but the State pension when he finishes his work.

Similarly, the assistant in a private office cannot look forward to any help during any period of unemployment which he may suffer. At the moment, fortunately, such periods are infrequent but they may not be so infrequent in future.

For those two reasons, if for no other, I support the motion, because I think that behind it is the idea that very much could be done along these lines in particular to make assistants in private offices have the same security as their colleagues in public offices.

**Mr. G. Grenfell Baines [4]:** I have considerable sympathy with the aims and objects of the proposer, seconder and supporters of the motion. I was one of those who voted for a trade union but as a result of my work on the Council and closer examination of the question I have had to re-think.

There can be two solid reasons for having a trade union, if that is what is meant by the first part of the motion. One is that it will be good for architecture and the profession as a whole and the other is that no satisfactory alternatives are in existence. Those would be solid reasons for the R.I.B.A. doing something about it.

Another point to note is that the second part of the motion squares absolutely with what the Council say in paragraph (D). In due course, if members will be reasonably patient, the Council will bring forward 'fresh and definite proposals' as a result of the undertaking which they have given in paragraph (D) so that to that extent there is agreement between us.

Coming to the reasons for a trade union, do we think it will be good for the profession as a whole? If you look at the history of trade unions you will find that they arose in a state of antagonism to industry generally, and while it is true that those conditions have certainly been altered by the trade unions—for which much credit is due to them—I do not think that any reflection of the present situation between orthodox trade unions and the

industry to which their members belong would be good for our profession. I sincerely believe that it would not be good for the unity of the profession and for that reason I think we should look to our Institute to deal with these matters, constantly prod it and see that it is inspired by its members on such occasions as this. I do not think the other decision would be good for the Institute or good for architecture.

The second reason would be that no satisfactory alternative exists. I have been making some inquiries about the work done for architects by N.A.L.G.O. and have been doing a little research into the salary scales obtaining today and those which obtained before the war, particularly for the lower salaried grades. When I compare these things I am driven to the conclusion that N.A.L.G.O. has done a very good job of work for those members up to now. It may not be entirely satisfactory but the remedy surely is to get into N.A.L.G.O. and make something of it. I am convinced that that is the way to get the respect of N.A.L.G.O. and to get N.A.L.G.O. to act for you.

When I made inquiries of the higher officers of N.A.L.G.O. about the activities of architects, I was told in the north-west that architects do not do much at all for N.A.L.G.O. compared with other professions. Incidentally, this official assures me that the membership of N.A.L.G.O. is not merely a few clerks but extends over a very wide range of professions. There are a lot of professional people of high status in N.A.L.G.O. I am told—I do not know whether this obtains in the whole country—that in the north-west architects are not very active in seeing to the welfare of N.A.L.G.O. It would be just as well if they started right away to make use of that existing machinery.

We have heard the cause of the A.B.T. pleaded. I am convinced that if existing organisations are used and improved by architects, the attitude of the R.I.B.A. Council would have to change. These people could bring pressure upon us. I agree that we are a badly paid profession. I too have compared the cars which the builders have with my car but I have ultimately dismissed that piece of introspection as unworthy. But there it is; we are a badly paid profession and I hope that in due course the activities of our Council, and particularly our Public Relations Committee, will so inspire the public to value good design in building that we shall be better paid as a profession. We are employed far more widely than we were, not only by Government Departments but also by commercial undertakings. The Council has been particularly successful with Government Departments. All this is due to the work of the Institute and of the members supporting it.

I do not think we shall be able to advance our status as a whole by trying to improve the material status through setting up a separate organisation outside the R.I.B.A. The thing is to work within and to use existing machinery. Why invent new tools



when you have tools at your disposal? Make the best of them. Back the Institute and the Council in its efforts to raise the status of the profession generally. Although I am in great sympathy with the ideas of the salaried members and wholeheartedly agree that the R.I.B.A. should have some sort of joint body with existing organisations, I feel that it is to those existing organisations that our members should look.

**Mr. H. Conolly [F]:** I speak as a salaried architect. I have a great deal of sympathy with all that has been said on behalf of salaried architects tonight. But I do not agree with the conclusions and I have great doubts of the practical value of a new union. I have been a member of N.A.L.G.O. for 18 years and while you may say that N.A.L.G.O. has not considered the architects adequately I think that is partly the fault of the architects.

It may be that I am one of the lucky ones, as Mr. Williams said, but the members of my department are very strong members of N.A.L.G.O. and the general opinion in my department is that they would not join another union. If I may say so, with respect, they have no faith in the R.I.B.A. or any union which it might set up.

My members of the Council—the local authority which I serve—have very little interest in or knowledge of the R.I.B.A. but they take great notice of what the National Joint Council says or what N.A.L.G.O. says. We have heard special pleading from Mr. Campbell for the A.B.T. I have had an upgrading for 30 technician members of my staff but I do not remember receiving from the A.B.T. any protest on their behalf. The protest came from the men themselves. I presented it to my Council and they accepted it.

N.A.L.G.O. and the A.B.T. have their seats on negotiating bodies, but any new body like B.A.G. or R.A.G. or S.A.G. or whatever it is called would not get seats on these bodies for years. The trouble is that we want results now. I am sorry that there is not an official spokesman from N.A.L.G.O. here; Mr. Grenfell Baines put their case but he is not a member of N.A.L.G.O. I am not a member of any council of N.A.L.G.O., but I know that N.A.L.G.O. is interested just as much in architects as in clerks, solicitors, doctors or anybody else.

We must bear in mind that while we want as much as we can get out of the public, there is a limit to what the public will pay. At least in salaried employment we do not take the risks of the company director. He may have a Rolls-Bentley or a Jaguar, but next month he may be bankrupt or in gaol. We have very tangible assets in security of employment although I agree that we do not get enough money. Our practical problem is, how do we get more? I put it to you that a union which has to fight for five or ten years to get a seat on a negotiating council is no good to me. I want a rise now. I had a letter from the R.I.B.A. asking me what my salary was and I replied; but I have not had a rise!

I do not expect a rise from the R.I.B.A.'s efforts and I do not expect a rise from the R.I.B.A.'s new trade union; but I am hoping for one in the next three months from N.A.L.G.O.

**Mr. C. Hindle [A]:** I am from the Bucks County Council and I speak for a number of colleagues in the department who, like Mr. Conolly, are members of N.A.L.G.O. I speak as an active member of N.A.L.G.O. and perhaps somebody would tell me how fifty architect members in any branch of N.A.L.G.O. can get an architect representing them on the southern district or any district council. In the local branch committees representation is in numerical proportion to the membership and if the architects have 100 per cent membership they still cannot get representation on the body that matters—the N.E.C. Perhaps someone will tell me how members of the clerical and sanitary inspectors' staffs in N.A.L.G.O. are to be persuaded in respect of architects, with their small membership in the organisation, to agree to architects being represented at the fountain head. I do not know the answer, if there is one.

I have been a representative on the N.A.L.G.O. branch for some years but that is the difficulty which we face. That is the reason for which there is not 100 per cent membership of N.A.L.G.O. by architects; their position is hopeless.

**Mr. J. Lewis Womersley [A]:** I speak as a local government architect. I was keen to have the sort of question asked which was asked in the questionnaire and I was surprised by the answer; it was not the private assistants who were clamouring so keenly for a union, as I expected it to be—having spent some years in private practice before going to local government—but apparently the demand came mainly from local government architects. That surprised me very much indeed because I thought N.A.L.G.O. was such a strong union.

I agree with the speaker who referred to the depressed middle classes. This meeting has shown that the Council has very much at heart the need to increase the prestige and status of assistant architects who are doing extremely important work. If one has a criticism of N.A.L.G.O. I think it is that perhaps they have concentrated too much on raising the lower grades and, as you get near the top, your salary has been increased less and less in proportion. I do not think N.A.L.G.O. can deny that because there are tables to show it.

We must raise our professional status but let us not call all non-architect members of N.A.L.G.O. 'clerks' because N.A.L.G.O. includes the engineer's department, the town planner's department, the staff of the director of education and the treasurer's department, for instance. There is a much greater future for architects working with their fellow professional men as a body.

As a city architect, however much I might think my contribution to the city was greater than that of the city engineer or treasurer, I would never attempt to put that case to a committee of laymen; it would be

a waste of time. I would put the case of professional men having much more responsibility than lower grade clerks and would press it strongly.

I support the Council's decisions because I think they are realistic. Paragraph (D) ensures to members that the Council will pursue the matter actively. I can assure you that we are not saying this with any idea of fobbing you off with something until next time. We do not get the salaries we ought to get and we are continuing to pursue the matter very hard. From the point of view of the local government architect I feel that the answer is for him to work within N.A.L.G.O. I have taken part in two national arbitrations and I have never found N.A.L.G.O. remiss in supporting any case; if they think there is a first class case they will work on it assiduously. I was particularly impressed by the attitude of the arbitration tribunal to N.A.L.G.O. representatives, who were held in high esteem, which agreeably surprised me. Clearly that was because N.A.L.G.O. did not come up with any half-baked case but only with a real case.

The local government architect has the machinery available and it is in his own hands to work with his fellow professional men to raise the standard of the profession generally. For that reason I appeal to members to support the Council's decision.

A member moved that, 'The question be now put'.

It was agreed, *That the question be now put.*

**Mr. Thurston Williams:** This meeting has heard me at length and the case is quite clear. I want to speak shortly in reply to some of the later speakers. I am a member of what might be described as a general trade union. With all due modesty I am fortunate in that union because it has decided that its main negotiator shall be an architect. When I have negotiated in the past on behalf of our architect members—and I shall soon be negotiating again—our employers have always met our case with the counter-argument that we are better paid than elsewhere in the country—and the instances which our employers quote are in local government. That is because local government scales are tied to N.A.L.G.O. and A.B.T. scales—and that is a point which both speakers who referred to N.A.L.G.O. just now should note.

I am not opposed to N.A.L.G.O. I have a respect for what it does in its own field but it is a fact that many architects are not satisfied. I am already an officer, and I hope a very loyal one, of an organisation, but I am asking you to support the motion because I think it is in the interests of the architects as a whole that they should be represented singly and nationally.

It is my view that there is no misunderstanding in this question. The Council has made a mistake and in my view this meeting should take note of that point and approve my motion. I have pleasure in requesting the meeting to do so.

*A ballot was then held and the result was later announced as follows: In favour of the resolution, 224. Against the resolution, 87.*

Mr. P. G. Freeman [F], Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education: May I reply to Mr. Conolly about part-time education? The subject of part-time education was referred to a special sub-committee which has already had two meetings and which hopes to be able to report and make recommendations to the Council probably in June. The matter is receiving full and urgent attention.

## FINANCES OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE

Mr. E. C. Tory [A]: In view of the statement by the Honorary Treasurer that the Completion of Premises Fund is now in excess of the estimated cost of the new building programme, could not the revenue surplus, together with the rents and interest received, or at least a material proportion of them, be earmarked for the furtherance of professional activities?

The Honorary Secretary: On behalf of the Honorary Treasurer I can tell you that the anticipated cost of the building and rebuilding at 68 Portland Place is between £50,000 and £60,000—very roughly. The plans are only in the sketch plan stage. There is a further scheme which will probably have to be carried out before very long, entailing the construction of a further two floors on top of the present building, and it is for that purpose that the money is being put aside under the title of the Rebuilding Fund. I am told that the figure of £50,000 should be increased to £70,000.

The Secretary: I should not like the meeting to be misled. I think the figure of £50,000 to £60,000 is a very rough estimate which we had from the architect some time ago. Costs have since risen. In addition, it does not take account of the cost of hiring premises to house the staff displaced during the operations nor the cost of the removal, new furniture and so on.

## SCIENCE COMMITTEE

Mr. W. G. Bor [A]: I should like to congratulate the Committee on having arranged the symposium on high flats, but I should like to make two points of criticism. First, the town planning aspect of high buildings and their effect on the townscape was not sufficiently discussed in the papers; secondly, there were too many papers and insufficient time for discussion.

The President: May I ask you to accept the Report, with the alteration to the item which we have taken so long in discussing? The Report was adopted.

## HONORARY AUDITORS

The President: I now have pleasure in proposing that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Mr. Robert O. Foster [F] and

Mr. E. D. Lyons [A] for their services as Honorary Auditors for the past year.

The resolution was carried with acclamation.

The President: Mr. John C. Ratcliff [F] and Mr. E. D. Lyons [A] are eligible and willing to be nominated as Honorary Auditors for the current year and I move that they be so nominated.

The resolution was carried.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Alexander Flinder [A]: May I raise a point which is somewhat of an anticlimax but which I feel sincerely to be worth saying. It arises not from the Annual Report but from the matters which we have discussed about salaried members on which it has a direct bearing.

It refers particularly to a letter sent to all members on 25 April in connection with membership of professional societies whose activities are concerned with the architectural profession. One phrase by the Council prompts me to speak: 'They are aware of a tendency, fortunately not widespread, to regard the profession as composed of sections whose interests may come into conflict. They do not subscribe to this opinion. They regard the profession as a single entity composed of members whose ultimate interests in the advancement of architecture are identical.'

None of us will disagree with the latter part of the paragraph but I disagree with the statement from the Council that they refuse to recognise any possibility of a possible sectional conflict between the various sections of the profession. There is one to which I am rather sensitive, being a comparatively young private practitioner; I am sensitive to the increasing amount of work being carried out privately by salaried architects. This may not be of much concern to members with large practices but a lot of the younger of the private practitioners depend on these smaller jobs for the initiation of their practices.

That is a case where sectional interests come into conflict and for the Council to say that they refuse to recognise the possibility of such a conflict will not help in solving the problem.

The President: To help yourself in this matter or to help the Council to help you, there is one thing you can do. I have heard this story for many years but have never come across anybody who will produce any factual evidence of one single case. If you have some evidence, let us have it.

Mr. Flinder: This is a particularly difficult question. Obviously there are cases. I cannot produce them now but I will try ultimately to do so. My object, however, is not to get on my personal hobby horse. I wanted to point out that there appears to have been a movement towards the forming of a London society of private practising architects. I am against it. I think that any movement to form an organisation outside

these doors will destroy the unity of the Institute. But the very fact that certain members have found it necessary to attempt to form such organisations in parts of the country indicates that there is a sense of frustration and that the Institute is not carrying out its duty in that respect.

The Council quite rightly say that the Royal Institute is the proper organisation for such discussions and that adequate machinery is available. It refers in its letter to the Allied Societies' Conference. I maintain that the existing machinery is not adequate, particularly for a London member. One question which has been raised as far as I can recall at practically every annual general meeting is that of a London society. I feel strongly on this question because I believe that there is absolutely no opportunity for the London members to discuss their professional problems. There is no venue.

It is the duty of the R.I.B.A. to provide adequate means for such discussions and it is no earthly use the Council sending a letter out saying, 'We do not think you should support outside organisations in these matters' if they offer no alternative. I am making a plea for closer liaison between the R.I.B.A. Council and its members. I wonder how many of the new members who have been admitted to-night will come back to this building with any particular interest in the R.I.B.A. as such? I do not think the R.I.B.A. and the Council make a particular effort to keep in touch with them personally. Of course, many of them do not make very much effort to keep in touch with the R.I.B.A. I am not trying to belittle the work which has been done—very able work—by members of the Committees and of the Council, but I feel that there is far too wide a gap between the Council and the rank and file of the membership. If the Council or the R.I.B.A. are to impart their own dignity to their own members they must keep in touch with them more. I am quite certain about that.

Not long ago I attended a study group under the auspices of the junior organisation of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. It was to discuss site organisation. I came away much impressed with the general feeling in that group, and by the fact that even the youngest member felt that because he was in that semi-official body he had a direct link with his Institution. That imparted a certain professional dignity.

These are obviously rather hazy and difficult matters to express but I hope that you can see what I am aiming at from this multitude of words. There is a great degree of frustration not only among salaried members but among young, junior practitioners, and there is not much opportunity to give vent to this frustration, particularly in the London area.

Some very good work is done by the Public Relations Committee, but surely it might well be an idea to have a Members' Relations Committee. Even in democratic Parliaments, Members of Parliament have

occasionally to make reports to their constituents. As far as I am aware, the people I have elected have never made any report to me from the R.I.B.A.—except once a year. I feel that the annual general meeting is not adequate as a means for a closer union.

All these things which we have been discussing are a symptom. They are symptomatic of the cleavage which we might possibly have. I am bound to say that all the discussion and all the action by the R.I.B.A. for a possible trade union will not affect the professional adjustments which we must make to the change in our way of life, but at least we should have an opportunity of discussing these matters and in the London area there is inadequate machinery for discussing them.

It is said that the A.A. is the body for the London society. I have recently become a member and I do not think it will perform the function which I propose. I suggest the formation, first of all, of a Members' Relations Committee whose object will be to get in close contact with members; and secondly that the formation of a London society be discussed; and thirdly the formation of a junior organisation.

**The President:** I can assure you that those remarks will be noted. I must say that I

found some of your remarks amusing, as a north-countryman, because in the north country we look upon the R.I.B.A. as a club for all you London chaps. The northern folk think they are the people who do not get represented.

**Mr. H. H. Clark [F]** I raised this point two years ago and was advised to join the A.A. I have not done so because I cannot afford to pay subscriptions to both the R.I.B.A. and the A.A. There is a good deal to be said for the ideas which Mr. Flinder has put forward and I add my personal weight to them.

**Mr. Grenfell Baines:** As a provincial member I am surprised to hear a London architect feeling out of touch with the R.I.B.A. The answer for provincial architects unquestionably is to support the Allied Societies and to stay in touch with them. I have done a great deal of work with them which I have enjoyed, but often I have been disappointed by the lack of support and interest of my professional colleagues in the Allied Societies. The Allied Societies can propagate among the public views on good design and good building. You get a sense of fulfilment and a positive avoidance of frustration if you support your Allied Societies.

## Practice Notes

Edited by Charles Woodward[4]

**IN PARLIAMENT. Land for widening Piccadilly.** Asked whether he was aware that the 146 sq. yds. of land required for widening Piccadilly, costing £20,800, worked out at £686,400 per acre; to whom the purchase price was paid; and what steps he proposed to take to avoid paying similar sums elsewhere for road widening, the Minister of Transport and Aviation replied: 'The London County Council now tell me that the area involved is 167 sq. yds. The land is at present owned by the Commissioners of Crown Lands. The answer to the third part of the question is, None, Sir.' (23 March 1955.)

**MONOPOLIES AND RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES COMMISSION. Reports.** The President of the Board of Trade was asked when he expected the Monopolies Commission to report on sand and gravel, and standard metal windows and doors. Mr. H. Strauss replied. He understood that the Commission hoped to complete this summer their inquiry into the supply of sand and gravel in certain parts of Scotland. The inquiry into the supply of metal windows and doors was less advanced, and he could not say when it was likely to be completed. (22 March 1955.)

**TOWN PLANNING DECISION.** A local planning authority refused permission to

develop land for housing purposes on the ground that the site was within 100 yards of land designated for compulsory acquisition for cemetery purposes, and the proposed residential development would be detrimental to the proposed development of the land scheduled for cemetery purposes, in as much as it would be likely to prevent approximately 3½ acres being used for burials. The Burial Acts of 1855 and 1906 provide that no interment is permissible within 100 yards of dwelling houses existing at the date of appropriation of the land for cemetery purposes without the written consent of the householders affected. Conversely, however, there is no restriction on the erection of houses on land adjoining an existing cemetery.

The owners of the land appealed against this decision and the Minister, in allowing the appeal, accepted the appellants' contention that planning powers should not be used to extend the provisions of the Burial Acts and to place upon a developer a restriction which those Acts imposed on a burial authority. (THE ESTATES GAZETTE, 9 April 1955.)

**ROYAL INSTITUTION OF CHARTERED SURVEYORS. National Schedule of Daywork Charges.** The R.I.C.S. and the N.F.B.T.E. have agreed that in Note (1) of Schedule A of both Part I and Part II '5½ per cent' shall read '6½ per cent' in connection with Holidays with Pay and Public Holidays. The amendment operated as from 4 April 1955.

**Heating, Ventilating and Domestic Engineering Work.** In a recent enquiry on the

definition of 'labour' in the daywork agreement for this work, the Quantity Surveyors (Practice) Sub-Committee noted the following interpretation by the Ministry of Works:—

'Payments by contractors in respect of holidays with pay and public holidays are not regarded as coming under the heading of "earnings" nor are they separately reimbursable. Excess wage rates are regarded as being reimbursable only in exceptional circumstances when specifically approved, in which case the excess rates would carry the percentage addition.'

**Electrical Contracting Industry.** By agreement between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union, the wages of journeyman electricians have been increased by 3d. per hour as from 14 March 1955, with corresponding increases in the rates for all other classes of labour.

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. Limits of cost for new schools.** Circular 274, Addendum No. 1, dated 7 April, states that since the current limits of net cost for educational building were set up in March 1953 there have been increases in the price of labour and materials and further increases are imminent. The Minister has therefore decided to adjust the limits for all classes of work except non-workshop accommodation in Colleges of Further Education. Experience shows that the present limit of 83s. per sq. ft. for this type of building need not be raised to the same extent as the others.

The new current limits of net cost which will be observed from the date of the Circular (7 April) until further notice are shown in the Appendix printed on the back of the Circular, which replaces that attached to Circular 274.

The Circular is obtainable at H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net.

**NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL FOR THE BUILDING INDUSTRY.** The Council have decided that as from 18 April the new rates per hour for craftsmen and labourers shall be as in Table I opposite.

**Watchmen.** As from 18 April the new rates for Watchmen are: London and Liverpool 21s. 9d. per shift, Provinces 20s. 6d. per shift.

**Public (Local) Holidays.** As from 18 April Working Rule 4 has been amended by the Council to read as follows:—

'In each locality there shall be not less than five days of public holiday in each year additional to Christmas Day.

These days shall be jointly recognised by employers' and operatives' organisations as local holidays for the purposes of the building industry in that locality subject to confirmation through the machinery of the National Joint Council.

On these days shops and jobs in the locality shall close down.



Work required to be done on the days so fixed and recognised as local holidays for the purpose of this agreement shall be paid for:—

(i) Christmas Day—double time.

(ii) The other five or more days at time-and-one-half for the period of the normal working day and at double time thereafter, or at double time throughout where that premium rate for local holidays has been approved and prescribed for the locality in the regional and/or local working rules.

# **PAYMENTS UNDER THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS, 1954.**

Closing date for submitting claims to be extended. Replying to a question in the House of Commons on Tuesday 26 April, Mr. Duncan Sandys, Minister of Housing and Local Government, announced that the closing date for submitting claims to the Central Land Board for payments under the terms of the Town and Country Planning Acts 1954 is to be extended from 30 April to 30 June.

The most important cases concerned, where holders of claims on the £300 million under the Town and Country Planning Acts 1947 may be entitled to a payment are: *first*, where development charge has been paid on the land covered by the claim; *secondly*, where the land concerned was sold or leased for less than its full value to a public authority before 1 January 1955 or privately before 18 November 1952; *thirdly* where the land was given away before 18 November 1952; *fourthly*, where the claim was purchased before 18 November 1952, and has been owned separately from the land.

Persons who do not hold claims on the £300 million may also qualify if they bought the land for more than its existing use value from someone who holds a claim for it, and they have since paid development charge or sold or leased the land at less than its full value to a public authority.

Forms of application can be obtained from any of the Central Land Board's offices.

**LAW CASES. River Pollution.** Under the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act 1951 it is an offence to discharge any polluting matter into a stream, and the owners of a canning factory were recently summoned and fined for so doing.

An extension to the factory was completed last year and effluent from barrel washing which contained vegetable matter was disposed of through a new drain on to a sewage plant, thence to a soakage pit and away from there through a field drain to a stream. Watercress beds were thereby damaged by pollution. It was thought that the new sewage plant would render the effluent innocuous, but this turned out not to be the case, and after complaints had been received the River Board inspected the factory and summoned the owners.

The architects for the factory owners consulted the local authority on the

sewage installation in accordance with normal practice, but it appears that they should also have communicated with the River Board under the 1951 Act and obtained their consent to the method of dealing with the effluent.

The factory owners have remedied the nuisance, and the effluent is now being pumped into the Borough Council's sewers.

The 1951 Act came into operation in October 1951, and defines a 'stream' as including any river, stream, watercourse or inland water (whether natural or artificial) except that the term does not include a lake or pond which does not discharge to a stream or any sewer vested in a local authority. Any reference in the Act to a 'stream' includes a reference to the channel or bed of a stream which is for the time being dry. Tidal waters are excluded under the definition subject to some exceptions referred to in the Act.

A River Board may make bye-laws in respect of discharge of effluent into

**Table I**

|              | LONDON        |              | GRADE        |                |               |                | LIVERPOOL     |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
|              | Inner         | Outer        | A            | A1             | A2            | A3             |               |
| Craftsmen .. | s. d.<br>4 1½ | s. d.<br>4 1 | s. d.<br>4 0 | s. d.<br>3 11½ | s. d.<br>3 11 | s. d.<br>3 10½ | s. d.<br>4 1½ |
| Labourers .. | 3 7           | 3 6½         | 3 5½         | 3 5            | 3 4½          | 3 4            | 3 7           |

streams, and a new discharge or a new or altered outlet requires the consent of the Board. A 'new discharge' and a 'new or altered outlet' are defined in the Act.

The 'Minister' under the Act means the Minister of Local Government and Planning.

**L.C.C. v. Wilkins.—Contractor's huts on site need to be rateable.** In this case the Court of Appeal decided that huts put upon a site by a contractor to enable him to carry out building operations are rateable. The L.C.C. appealed as owners of the site. The building contract provided that the architect had rights of access to the huts and the L.C.C. reserved the right to occupy the site for their own purposes whether work was in progress or not. On the facts the Court held that there was rateable occupation and dismissed the appeal of the L.C.C. Leave was given to appeal to the House of Lords. (THE ESTATES GAZETTE, 9 April 1955.)

**Note.** Condition 3 of the R.I.B.A. Form of Contract now provides that rates and taxes if not expressly included in the Contract Sum or stated by way of a provisional sum shall be added to the Contract Sum.

This was an amendment made in consequence of a similar decision in the case of John Laing and Son Ltd. v. the Assessment Committee for the Kingswood area, which was referred to in the JOURNAL for January 1949, on page 134. The Court of Appeal in that case gave Messrs. Laing leave to appeal to the House of Lords, but they did not avail themselves of the permission.

**Davis Contractors Ltd. v. Fareham U.D.C.** This was an appeal from an award of an arbitrator in respect of a contract for the building of 78 houses within eight months for the U.D.C. The contractors' tender was, by a letter attached to the tender, subject to adequate supplies of material and labour being available as and when required to carry out the work. Owing to bad weather and shortage of available labour the work took 22 months to complete. The arbitrator found that as adequate supplies of labour and material were not available the contract was so changed that it became void and he awarded the contractors an additional £17,258 on a *quantum meruit*.

The Court of Appeal, in allowing the Urban District Council's appeal from the arbitrator's award, held that even if the letter attached to the contractors' tender was incorporated into the contract, it meant that they would be excused for delay owing to inadequate supplies of labour

and material. The delay, therefore, affected the time but not the price, and the fact that, without the fault of either party, the contract became more onerous, so that the time for completion was extended, was no ground for relieving the contractors from the obligation they had undertaken and allowing them to recover on a *quantum meruit*.

The contractors were given leave to appeal to the House of Lords. (JOURNAL OF PLANNING AND PROPERTY LAW, April 1955. All England Law Reports, 1955, vol. 1, page 275.)

**Note.** Under Condition 18a of the R.I.B.A. Form of Contract, an extension of time can be granted where the contractor is delayed by lack of such labour and materials as are essential to the proper carrying out of the Works.



# Review of Construction and Materials

*This section gives technical and general information. The following bodies deal with specialised branches of research and will willingly answer inquiries.*

*The Director, The Building Research Station, Garston, near Watford, Herts.*

*Telephone: Garston 2246.*

*The Officer-in-charge, The Building Research Station Scottish Laboratory, Thorntonhall, near Glasgow.*

*Telephone: Busby 1171.*

*The Director, The Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough, Bucks.*

*Telephone: Princes Risborough 101.*

*The Director, The British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London, W.1.*

*Telephone: Mayfair 9000.*

*The Director, The Building Centre, 26 Store Street, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.C.1.*

*Telephone: Museum 5400 (10 lines).*

*The Director, The Scottish Building Centre, 425-7 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.2.*

*Telephone: Douglas 0372.*

**The Superpanel Walling Unit.** The number of 'dry' partitioning systems has been increased by the addition of an interesting newcomer; it is called the Superpanel, and the first time it was publicly made and erected was at the Hertfordshire County Council's junior mixed and infants school at Redhall, near Hatfield.

Among the advantages the makers claim for this new unit are that it can be cast on the site by using a plant so simple that it can be carried about by two men, and that the incorporation of a secret ingredient, Superite, in the gypsum facing plaster renders the surface so hard that kicking will not make an impression on it, and therefore a skirting need not be provided; that a 2½ in. thick load-bearing panel will withstand a load of up to 8 tons per foot run before failure, and lastly that a panel can be cast in 20 minutes, when it is at once ready to be erected.

At present the moulding bed is 10 ft. by 2 ft. and is made of stainless steel and supported on adjustable legs to make it level. The sides and ends are removable. The making of the panel is as follows:

An accurately determined amount of plaster mixed with Superite and water is poured into the mould; immediately pre-cast longitudinal edging pieces, of similar composition, are placed in the plaster, one piece having a tongue and the opposite piece a groove. Then a core of corrugated asbestos sheeting—cut to length and width—is placed in the plaster and is kept in its correct position by adjustable supports attached to the ends of the mould. This sheeting is standard but at intervals along each crest of the corrugations little perforated aluminium plates are fixed, and the underneath ones sink into the plaster and aid adhesion.

After a few minutes the plaster with its core has set sufficiently for it to be lifted on to a resting bench while another mix of plaster and Superite is being poured into the mould. The first plaster face and core are then turned over and placed in position, the aluminium plates, which were on top but are now underneath, being similarly pressed into the plaster. When the second plaster face has set the panel is ready for removal, 20 minutes being sufficient for the whole operation. As the panel is cast on stainless steel the surface is remarkably

smooth, although on request a rough or stippled surface can be given.

Since the long sides of the panel are respectively tongued and grooved they interlock when placed in position. The joints can be filled with the same plaster or be covered with scrim. The bottom of the panel can safely rest on the floor; the top is restrained by hessian strips fixed by plaster to the panel and attached to trusses, or by other means suited to the constructional system of the building.

Electric cables and other services can be run in the corrugations of the core, or they can be filled with insulating material. Fixings can be screwed or nailed, or blocks and boxes be cast in during moulding. The panels can be sawn.

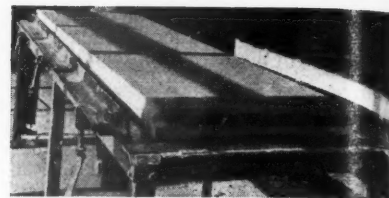
Thermal transmittance, 0.45; fire resistance, 1 hour grade; spread of flame, Class 1.

The JOURNAL watched panels being cast on the site and erected at the Redhall school and can confirm the claims made regarding ease and quickness of casting and final appearance.

Superpanels are a product of Messrs. Petradene, Ltd., 23-39 Bendon Valley, Garratt Lane, London, S.W.18.

**The Radiation Heatmaster.** The warm air whole house heating system of Messrs. Radiation Ltd. is well known, and they have now produced the first appliance in Britain to provide by itself the three services of cooking, house heating and water heating. The company call it the Heatmaster, and believe it to be the first appliance, capable of burning coal or coke, which can provide thermostatic control over a full range of oven temperatures. Field tests were carried out during last winter with development models installed in new maisonnettes at Coventry, designed as an open-plan living- and dining-kitchen, with two bedrooms, bathroom and w.c. and linen cupboard above, the area of the lower floor being about 364 ft. super and the bedroom floor about 340 ft. super.

The Heatmaster is an insulated self-contained unit comprising a heat exchanger, fan and motor, and a thermostatically controlled cooker. A room thermostat, a warm air outlet, return air ducts and register complete the installation. Cooking and water heating can be thermostatically con-



The Superpanel Walling Unit

trolled and operated independently of the room heating. A ground floor area up to about 350 ft. super is heated by ducted warm air; overspill heat giving a background warmth to the bedrooms above.

The principle of the Heatmaster is as follows: the fire box operates on the up-draught principle when burning coke and other smokeless fuels, and on down-draught when burning bituminous coal, for which secondary air is introduced to effect smokeless combustion. An oven thermostat controls the primary air supply to the furnace, and thus the rate of burning. The fuel bed is in contact with an L-shaped boiler and the products of combustion pass over a heat transfer plate which conducts heat to a convection chamber surrounding the main oven.

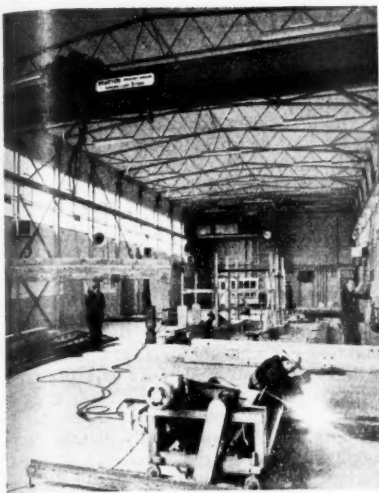
When the room thermostat calls for heat a fan is automatically switched on and draws air from a suitable point, such as the upstairs landing. Air is thus passed round the heat exchanger into the mixing chamber and thence to outlets in the living space. In the Coventry maisonnettes the stairs are not enclosed and this allows overspill heat to rise and warm the upstairs rooms.

The cooker comprises a main oven, a slow-cooking or plate-warming oven, and fast-boiling and simmering hot plates.

During tests temperatures were taken near the corners and at about 60° F the horizontal variation at the 4 ft. level was 1° F and the vertical variation, between 1 and 7 ft. levels, was 5° F.

**The Rapidograph Pen.** Mr. Colman, of mustard fame, is reported to have said that he made his money not so much from the amount of mustard people ate but from what they left on their plates. Draughtsmen may be tempted to think that suppliers of drawing inks must get some of their profits not from the quantity used but from the amount of clogged ink that has to be wiped from the ruling pen at frequent intervals, especially when a fine setting is being used. A ruling pen functioning in the same way as a fountain pen would seem to be a useful instrument, and the marketers of the Rapidograph pen claim that it acts in that way.

The pen is shaped like a fountain pen, with a pocket clip, and the 'nib' resembles that on ball-point pens; it can be filled with writing, drawing, Indian or water-proof inks. It is made in three line width sizes—fine, medium and broad (distinguished by one, two or three little circles on the top of the cap), and it is claimed that a consistently and absolutely even line can be drawn without any clogging of the point.



Messrs. Laing's structures laboratory

but if the flow of ink should by chance be obstructed by a particle a slight vertical shake causes a fine wire in the precision tube to be set in motion and this clears the point.

It is stated that a study was made of the time taken to ink in a pencil tracing by the Rapidograph and by a ruling pen, and the Rapidograph was 50 per cent faster.

The JOURNAL made a very brief test of a pen lent for the purpose, and it seemed to show that the claims made were not exaggerated. The Rapidograph can be obtained from stationers, artist and drawing office equipment suppliers, and the present price of each sized pen is 21s.

**The Laing R. and D. Centre.** On 27 April the Rt. Hon. Nigel Birch, M.P., Minister of Works, opened the new Research and Development Centre of Messrs. John Laing and Son Ltd., at Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire. This Centre consolidates the already existing sections and comprises plant development, mechanical and electrical engineering, concrete and soil mechanics laboratories, research and experimental sections, architectural and structural engineering development groups, and a technical library.

Messrs. Laing support the view that to maintain or increase productivity there must be a greater use of mechanical constructional aids and a more scientific approach to materials and techniques. The fulfilment of these aims is the object of Messrs. Laing's decision to build their new Centre, where scientific research can be put to practical test, and new machines be invented to help production. Thus the Centre is able to provide a series of services extending through every phase of a project, from investigation of the soil to the use of the proper paint, with testing of concrete playing an important part in between. The large structures laboratory enables full-scale demonstrations to be given.

Messrs. Laing's 'Easiform' system of house construction is well known, and their researches into the use of pulverised

fuel ash led to the production of their Thermalite lightweight building blocks.

The architects for the new Centre were Mr. S. Greenwood [A] and Mr. H. N. Michell [A].

**B.S. 2604: 1955. Medium-density Resin-bonded Wood Chipboard.** This Standard relates to the quality of wood chipboards of medium density in thicknesses of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. and  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. and having a density of not less than 40 and not more than 60 lb. per cu. ft. The required mechanical properties and water absorption are set out in a table and methods of test are defined. Price 3s. net.

## Correspondence

### SYMPOSIUM ON HIGH FLATS

*The Editor, R.I.B.A. Journal.*

DEAR SIR,—The Chairman of the Bracknell Development Corporation, not unnaturally perhaps, has hastened to the defence of the New Towns in consequence of statements made by me in a recent paper; and he has emphasised the importance of stating the facts correctly with regard to this type of development. In this I am in complete agreement, and it was in an effort to elucidate the whole position and to correct a number of erroneous statements which are gaining currency that I included information relating to the costs of the New Towns in my paper.

It has clearly been no part of my purpose to reflect in any way on the competence of the Corporations and their executive officers in the task placed on them, but rather by implication to call to question the policy of New Town development, which continues to be befogged by a great deal of special pleading and by incomplete statements of facts; more especially in view of the present preoccupation with slum clearance and redevelopment of central areas, there is need for the facts regarding the cost of building in city redevelopment areas to be put into correct perspective.

To reiterate the statements in my paper, I made it abundantly clear that I was not discussing net costs of construction and I also emphasised that it was appreciated that certain of the costs which I had taken into account would 'cover apportionments for subsequent development and that this cost will ultimately be spread'. I stated that figures from the New Towns Report showed that inclusive costs 'for land acquisition, house construction, sewage works, main roads, together with water supply undertakings' provide the unit cost per dwelling to which Sir Lancelot has referred. In this I claim to have been more than fair inasmuch as it is a cardinal point of New Town policy to establish industry locally in order to create a self-contained community. This being the case, there are the strongest possible arguments for including all costs relating to industry in the calculation.

Moreover, this is still only part of the story and this I also referred to in some detail in my paper. If we are to compare

'like with like' the components relating to the cost of the New Towns must be stated just as in the case of central area redevelopment. In replanning slum and other central areas, it is obvious that the majority of the residents are being rehoused in more or less the same location and that communal facilities such as schools, public health services, public utility services, provision of shopping centres and administrative offices will already exist, and the redevelopment creates no appreciable additional charge for such provision. On the contrary, however, the building of houses in New Towns not only requires streets to be formed, water, gas and electricity services to be provided in their entirety including generation, substations, pumping stations, purification plants and sewage disposal works; but also public health and cleansing services which are entirely additional to anything existing have to be allowed for, together with new shopping centres and administrative offices. The industry has to be provided as otherwise tenants will find themselves in a rural no-man's land with the obligation of travelling long distances to and from their employment.

It is common knowledge too that large areas of good productive agricultural land are being built on for the purpose of establishing these New Towns and in spite of surveys indicating a high potential of vegetable production in small gardens, there is no question that the actual position represents a heavy loss of production; and therefore diminishes the supply of home grown food which is already only half of our requirements. As a consequence, this loss of land increases Government expenditure in the form of additional subsidies for substitute food imports.

I contend that any reference to net cost of construction is entirely meaningless and that only by reference to gross costs can a proper picture be given. This picture is a very different one from that normally produced for popular consumption. Denmark has approached the whole question of relative costs with an open mind many years ago and concluded that in fact constructing small houses, even in limited areas, costs 30 per cent more than building flats. The conclusions in Sweden have been similar and those in Germany too. No other European country regards the cost of construction of small houses as being less than that of flats and perhaps we can now begin to understand why.

The Chairman of the Bracknell Corporation would doubtless be the first to admit that neither he nor anyone else knows the final all-in costs per housing unit of all development comprised within the New Town area for which he is responsible. If and when he has that information and all the factors I have referred to are taken into account and it can be shown that an unfair picture has been presented, I shall be the first to acknowledge this fact publicly. Until then I think I can justifiably claim that I have given a fair and factual presentation of such facts as are at present known.

Yours faithfully,

R. A. JENSEN, A.M.T.P.I. [F]



# Book Reviews

**Form and Reform in Architecture**, by *Bertram Hume*. 8½ in. xviii + 190 pp. Halcyon Press. 1954. 15s.

Mr. Hume states in his introduction that his book is about the theory of design in architecture, and that it contains an account of the various theories of design put forward during the last hundred years. While the first part of his claim is justified, the second is not. Mr. Hume has selected Pugin, Ruskin, Philip Webb, Ebenezer Howard, Patrick Geddes, Le Corbusier and the official work in Ministries concerned with planning to cover the various theories of design. This does not seem enough. While it is true that the different views expressed by these architects, writers, sociologists and bureaucrats have had their influence on architectural thinking, I do not think anyone will be satisfied that they represent the whole body of architectural theory of the last hundred years. Moreover Patrick Geddes was not concerned to reform architectural design, and for Mr. Hume to complain that Geddes is vague about what is 'good' town planning or the 'best' design seems pointless. Geddes did not conceive it as his function to determine these points, and Mr. Hume is himself equally vague in the later pages of the book, though he does suggest that the Parthenon has qualities of which he approves.

I may of course be doing the author an injustice. He may have intended only to discuss the various 'reforming' theories of architecture, but even here his survey is woefully incomplete—no reference is made to H. H. Richardson or Louis Sullivan, a reformer if ever there was one, Adolf Loos, Berlage, the Vienna Sezession, Tony Garnier, Gropius and the Bauhaus, and many more, all of whom as 'reformers' had their own contributions to make to the development of design in architecture.

If the author is not comprehensive, neither is his analysis of the ideas of the reformers he has selected adequate. There is not space in a review to discuss his analyses. It appears to me however that in his attempt to demonstrate that the selected protagonists have been dominated by concepts which are 'romantic and therefore false' instead of 'classic', he only succeeds in discussing the very valid contributions of his reformers. The true significance of this is dealt with elsewhere. It seems surprisingly like Sir Howard Robertson's *Principles of Architectural Composition* and would undoubtedly be accepted by many exponents of what Mr. Hume would condemn as picturesque design.

The second part of this book deals with the 'classic' principles, and here again I do not think Mr. Hume is a safe guide. He accuses the 'reformers' of neglecting 'plan', but did not Le Corbusier say 'Le plan est le générateur', which does not suggest the plan is neglected but rather that it lies behind the whole concept of the completed building. Considerable space is taken in a chapter entitled 'The Alternative

Principle' to an elaboration of the idea of a 'classic' plan. I would like to quote the views of an architect, whom Mr. Hume describes as 'the only contemporary specialist in picturesque design' (therefore anti-classic—R.T.), 'who emphasises the joints in materials and is thus consistently romantic' (and therefore bad according to Mr. Hume—R.T.), '... Frank Lloyd Wright.' In an article in 1908 Wright said 'in laying out the ground plans for even the more insignificant of these buildings a simple axial law and order and the ordered spacing upon a system of certain structural units definitely established for each structure in accord with its scheme of practical construction and aesthetic proportion, is produced as an expedient to simplify the technical difficulties of execution and although the symmetry may not be obvious always, the balance is usually maintained'. To the reader of this book Wright's words bear a remarkable similarity to the qualities required of a 'classic' plan as described by the author.

What is one to conclude from this unanimity of view between the embattled 'romantic' and 'classic'? Is it possible that this is a false antithesis, as Mr. Hume himself seems to suggest? I believe that architects are in wide agreement about many principles of their art, but that some are gifted with more imagination and have developed a deeper sensibility and wider human sympathy than others. Those who search for principles will design buildings of enduring qualities, be they called 'classic' or 'romantic'. I have no space to deal in detail with the remainder of Mr. Hume's book, in which he discusses the kinds of architecture produced by his two antithetical societies—the communist and the aristocratic—and draws his conclusion that the classic attitude towards existence is the architectural one, although he acknowledges that 'romantic' influences give art its vitality.

It is not clear to whom this book is addressed. The architect would be well advised to read for himself the views of the writers Mr. Hume endeavours to analyse; he will agree with much of the middle part of the book and be suspicious of much of the last few chapters. I would hesitate to recommend it to that ubiquitous creature 'the intelligent layman', for he will get much that is distorted, much that is inaccurate and will be left in some doubt as to what the argument is all about.

ROBERT TOWNSEND [4]

**Know Your House**, by *Eric Ambrose*. 8½ in. + 264 pp. + iv pp. of illus. Thames & Hudson. [1954.] 15s.

Eric Ambrose, consultant architect to IDEAL HOME Magazine, has given us an unusual book about many aspects of the house. Its *raison d'être* is explained in a foreword by the author and arose from numerous questions following a series of magazine articles. These articles form the nucleus of the book, and perhaps this is a weakness. Certainly the information is correct to-day; but, by the time this notice goes to press, will the prices of flooring materials or the

addresses of Rural Industry Offices, from which thatchers can be obtained, be out of date? And at whom, one wonders, is this pleasantly written and presented book aimed?

The first pages are taken up with advice on the use of an architect and contain a rather alarming 'House Journal'. This game for the potential client requires him to prepare a list of his most detailed requirements and, together with the reproduction of the R.I.B.A. scale of charges in the appendix, suggests that the practising architect was not really the target. But an innocent layman, anxious to know a little about the house from the structural, building, purchasing or improving angle, is likely to find a deal of overpowering information on flooring, roofs, walls, drains, dry rot and a dozen other things, some of which is sufficiently detailed technically to interest the practising architect. Perhaps the excellent index may help both in their explorations.

The light-hearted humorous drawings, beautifully executed by Sheila Rusby, and the lively style of the author retrieve what might well have been a rather dull semi-technical building construction book.

R. A. C.

**Site Supervision**. A handbook for architects and assistants, by *A. A. Macfarlane*. 8½ in. 159 pp. text illus. Archt. Press. 1954. 16s.

This is a straightforward handbook which should prove especially useful to the newly qualified architect. It explains his duties and responsibilities on the site and the intricacies and etiquette of job management both from the builder's and architect's points of view. Examples are given of the types of problem that may arise in each trade.

**Art and Industry**. The principles of industrial design, by *Sir Herbert Read*. 3rd ed. 9 in. 204 pp. incl. pls. and pp. of illus. Faber & Faber. 1953. £1 5s.

Universally recognised as the standard work on the principles of industrial design, this revised edition is extremely welcome. It contains many new illustrations and some new material. As one would expect, the production is admirable.

**Treppen und Treppenhäuser**. *Stairs and Staircases*, by *Konrad Gatz and Fritz Hierl*. 11½ in. 252 pp. incl. (220) pp. of illus. Munich: Callwey. 1954. (DM. 39.—)

Not a technical book explaining the construction of stairs and staircases, but a fine collection of excellent photographs of stairways in many types of recent building. Most of the examples are of course German, but a certain number have been chosen from other countries; none from Britain. A very short introductory text is provided in five languages, including English, and (also in five languages) a glossary of technical terms. An alphabetical list of architects whose work is illustrated provides an index of sorts. There are no plans or drawings.

J. C. P.

# Notes and Notices

## NOTICES

**Ninth General Meeting: Tuesday 14 June 1955** at 6 p.m. The Ninth General Meeting of the Session 1954-55 will be held on Tuesday 14 June 1955 at 6 p.m. for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Eighth General Meeting held on 17 May 1955; formally to admit new members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the report of the Scrutineers appointed to examine the voting papers for the election of the Council for the Session 1955-56.

Professor Charles Madge to read a paper on 'Sociology and Architecture'.

(Light refreshments will be provided before the meeting.)

**Session 1954-55. Minutes VI.** At the Sixth General Meeting of the Session 1954-55 held on Tuesday 5 April 1955 at 6 p.m., Mr. C. H. Aslin, C.B.E., President, in the Chair.

The meeting was attended by about 280 members and guests.

The minutes of the Fifth General Meeting held on Tuesday 1 March 1955, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read, confirmed and signed as correct.

The President spoke on the presentation of the Royal Gold Medal 1955 to Mr. J. Murray Easton [F], and called upon Mr. Hope Bagenal, D.C.M.[F], Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A. [F], Mr. Thomas Knox-Shaw, C.B.E., M.C., M.A.[Hon. A.], Sir Frank Montgomery, M.C., Dr. Charles Harris, F.R.C.P., and Mr. F. Leslie Preston [F] who also spoke.

The President then asked Sir Percy Thomas, O.B.E., LL.D., D.L. (Past President), and Sir Edward Maufe, R.A., M.A., LL.D. [F] (two Royal Gold Medallists), to escort Mr. Easton to the platform.

Having been invested with the Medal, Mr. Easton expressed his thanks for the honour conferred upon him.

The proceedings closed at 7.20 p.m.

**Session 1954-1955. Minutes VII.** At the One Hundred and Seventeenth Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 3 May 1955 at 6 p.m.

Mr. C. H. Aslin, C.B.E., President, in the Chair.

The meeting was attended by about 450 members and guests.

The Minutes of the Sixth General Meeting held on Tuesday 5 April 1955 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as correct.

The following members attending for the first time since their election were formally admitted by the President: *As Fellows*: C. E. W. Boreham, L. A. Clarke, S. V. Goodman, J. H. Jacob, Frederick Johnson, D. J. Oliver, D. C. Purcell. *As Associates*: Frederick Alderson, G. A. Askew, G. H. Blomfield, A. J. S. Brown, C. S. Burgess, David Cheverton, J. S. Collins, P. R. Cooper, A. B. Foster, Stanislaw Grabowski, M. W. Grist, R. W. Hallam, J. C. Haskell, Malcolm Howard-Radley, D. T. Hunneball, J. R. F. Ithier, F. R. Kerly, John Kinross, George Lenartowicz-Lennox, D. M. Luetchford, P. G. Marks, P. H. Marsh, R. C. Pearce, Leonard Rogers, D. A. H. Rummary, K. P. Sargent, F. P. Sellick, L. W. Selves, G. P. Slingo, D. A. Stevens, A. E. A. Wild, E. M. Wright.

The President formally presented the Report of the Council and Committees for the official year 1954-1955 and moved that the Report be received. The Hon. Secretary seconded the motion and a discussion ensued.

The following motion, notice of which had been previously given, was moved by Mr. T. M. Williams [A] and seconded by Mr. C. G. L. Shankland [A]:

'That this Annual General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects does not support the Council's decisions concerning the representation of members and Students in salaried employment as set out in their letter of 4 January.

'It instructs the Council to reconsider these decisions and bring forward fresh and definite proposals in line with the majority opinion of those who replied to the questionnaire.'

The motion was put to the meeting and declared carried, the voting being 224 in favour and 87 against.

The motion that the Report of the Council and Committees for the official year be received, subject to the resolution passed at this meeting, was then put from the Chair and was carried.

On the motion of the President, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Robert O. Foster [F] and Mr. E. D. Lyons [A] for their services as Honorary Auditors for the past year.

Mr. E. D. Lyons [A] and Mr. John C. Ratcliff, O.B.E. [F], were nominated for election as Honorary Auditors for the ensuing year of office.

The proceedings closed at 8.30 p.m.

**R.I.B.A. Kalendar.** The 1955-56 issue of the Kalendar will be published in the autumn and the last day for receiving changes of address for inclusion in that issue will be 31 May. This date applies to all members and Students, both in the United Kingdom and overseas.

**British Architects' Conference, Harrogate, 8-11 June 1955.** Final arrangements are now being made for the various functions to be held during the Conference. Members were asked to submit their applications not later than 16 May, but if any members who have not yet sent in applications wish to do so now, every effort will be made to meet their wishes.

**The R.I.B.A. Appointments Department.** Members and Students of the R.I.B.A. and the Allied Societies are reminded that the services of the Institute's Appointments Department are available to employers requiring assistants and to assistants seeking salaried employment.

Employers are invited to notify the Secretary of vacancies in their offices, giving details of the work to be done, the qualifications required and salaries offered.

Assistants should preferably call at the offices of the Appointments Department, but if this is not practicable they should obtain from the Secretary an application form, which when completed and returned to the Institute will enable the Department either to send the applicants particulars of vacancies suitable to their qualifications and requirements or submit their names for vacant posts.

Members and Students seeking official appointments should note that normally these are fully advertised in the weekly professional press, and that therefore the Appointments Department do not as a rule notify them to those on the register.

The Institute will also be glad to advise on most matters concerning architectural employment, including overseas appointments.

**The Acceptance of Pupils and Junior Assistants and the Probationership of the R.I.B.A.** The

Board of Architectural Education have noticed that the practice still persists of members accepting pupils or junior assistants without satisfying themselves that such pupils or junior assistants have reached the necessary standard of general education for the Probationership. Members are reminded that it is most important that they should not take boys or girls into their offices unless they possess one of the qualifications laid down.

A list of the recognised examinations can be obtained on application to the Secretary, R.I.B.A.

**Cessation of Membership.** Under the provisions of Bye-law 21, the following has ceased to be a member of the Royal Institute: *as Associate*; Reginald Ernest de Smidt.

## BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

**Examination in Professional Practice and Practical Experience.** The examination in Professional Practice and Practical Experience was held in London and Edinburgh on 31 March and 1 April 1955.

Of the 252 candidates examined, 214 passed and 38 were relegated. The successful candidates are as follows:—

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Abbott: E. H.       | Dixon: S. S.        |
| Addleson: L. S.     | Djurkovic: George   |
| Alexander: C. W.    | Dove: D. C. (Mrs.)  |
| Allen: R. R.        | Dukes: E. G.        |
| Archer: J. H. G.    | Dyas: John          |
| Arrow: A. W.        | Edge: G. T.         |
| Ashdown: R. A.      | Edleston: J. H.     |
| Austin: T. A.       | Elkerton: W. J.     |
| Axon: T. F.         | Elliott: J. A.      |
| Baldwin: S. F.      | Engleback: N. W.    |
| Ball: T. W.         | Entwistle: D. K.    |
| Barclay: R. L.      | Exley: C. D.        |
| Barden: Geoffrey    | Fehily: J. M.       |
| Bell: D. P.         | Fleck: R. J. (Mrs.) |
| Belle: J. L.        | Fleming: N. M.      |
| Bemant: A. E. S.    | Fletcher: W. A.     |
| Bentley: A. G.      | Forsyth: J. E. C.   |
| Benwell: Peter      | Foster: G. H.       |
| Best: E. C.         | Fraser: Donald      |
| Black: Douglas      | Gardner: J. T.      |
| Bolin: B. L. (Miss) | Gent: Raymond       |
| Bolland: Sydney     | George: G. R.       |
| Borton: D. G.       | Gibberd: J. V.      |
| Boulting: K. F.     | Gilonis: B. A.      |
| Bouskill: B. E.     | Glass: Thomas       |
| Bradley: A. S. E.   | Godwin: M. G.       |
| Bradshaw: P. J. D.  | Graham: R. C.       |
| Briggs: D. S.       | Grant-Nelson: A. W. |
| Bristow: D. S.      | McK.                |
| Brown: F. J.        | Grinted: J. R. H.   |
| Brzezinski: R. K.   | Hall: G. D.         |
| Buchwald: Lucjan    | Hall: J. B.         |
| Burford: C. H.      | Hallam: H. S.       |
| Burke: John         | Hardy: J. A.        |
| Caddy: H. R.        | Headings: C. L.     |
| Caffry: C. W.       | Hellard: R. B.      |
| Castle: Paul        | Hendrey: W. S.      |
| Clapham: S. J.      | Hewes: D. A.        |
| Coffin: J. H. F.    | Hickley: D. M.      |
| Cole: J. D.         | Hickling: Cliffe    |
| Connaughton: J. F.  | Hickman: A. D. V.   |
| Constable: G. B.    | Hicks: M. G.        |
| Cooke: A. G.        | Hoare: R. W. C.     |
| Cooley: Neville     | Holmes: C. L.       |
| Cordingley: L. N.   | Hubbard: N. S.      |
| Coward: J. R.       | Humphries: D. J.    |
| Crawforth: C. P.    | Huntley: C. A. T.   |
| Cross: D. W.        | Huntley: Rex        |
| Davis: H. E. L.     | James: P. L.        |
| Dawes: G. S.        | Jeffries: D. W.     |

Jellema: W. H.  
 Jenkins: D. H.  
 Johnson: A. E.  
 Johnston: T. J.  
 Jolliffe: R. C.  
 Jones: G. Graham  
 Kemp: Anthony  
 Kendrick: P. J.  
 Kennett: R. A. G.  
 Kershaw: D. J.  
 Khambatta: R. S.  
 King: R. J.  
 Kot: Jan  
 Kowalski: S. M.  
 Larkin: W. E.  
 Leech: B. A.  
 Lees: Derrick  
 Lewis: D. R.  
 Litchfield: Patrick  
 Lloyd: B. J.  
 Longson: S. H.  
 Luckman: S. J.  
 Lumb: L. F.  
 Mackenzie: F. A. A.  
 Mackintosh: William  
 McOneal: E. A.  
 Males: A. R.  
 Mellers: Gilbert  
 Meredith: B. N.  
 Minchell: C. S.  
 Mirrington: R. D.  
 Molesworth: R. M.  
 Moore: J. M.  
 Morgan: A. K. W.  
 Morhaim: N. O.  
 Morris: F. C. M.  
 Moyes: A. F.  
 Murray: A. C.  
 Neivens: K. A.  
 Newton: Kenneth  
 Norwood: Gerald  
 Ouseley: M. C.  
 Palmer: J. R. B.  
 Panter: K. H.  
 Parry: R. G.  
 Parsons: Harry  
 Payne: Roy  
 Penhey: A. D.  
 Prendergast: M. D.  
 Pring: J. G. R.  
 Procter: J. D.  
 Pujdak: J. L.  
 Raynor: L. V.  
 Read: A. M.  
 Read: R. W.  
 Redstone: E. J.  
 Reeves: M. K.  
 Reid: Alan  
 Richards: J. D.

Ringrose: L. H. A.  
 Roberts: R. A.  
 Roberts: J. T.  
 Robinson: P. W.  
 Rolf: C. E.  
 Russell: A. J.  
 Saunders: D. P.  
 Sharpe: J. B.  
 Sierakowski: K.  
 Silvester: W. G.  
 Simmonds: J. M.  
 Sinclair: R. D.  
 Skelton: Margaret  
 (Miss)  
 Skinner: D. N.  
 Small: John  
 Smith: Colin  
 Sowersby: W. G. J.  
 Speller: Dennis  
 Spencer: Alan  
 Stonelake: D. W.  
 Sutcliffe: E. E.  
 Swann: Victor  
 Tapp: D. R.  
 Taylor: J. T. R.  
 Thaxton: M. E.  
 (Mrs.)  
 Thomas: A. R.  
 Tims: C. H. G.  
 Topolski: B. A.  
 Trigg: W. C.  
 Turkson: P. N. K.  
 Turland: M. J.  
 Turner: Frank  
 Turner: J. J.  
 Turner: M. W.  
 Vassbenter: A. L.  
 Walford: N. E.  
 Walker: F. H. H.  
 Walker: R. E.  
 Walmsley: A. J.  
 Walton: E. S.  
 Warburton: Brian  
 Ware: P. J. W.  
 Watson: L. E.  
 Webb: H. L.  
 Weitzel: A. H. R.  
 West-Jones: Alan  
 Whitton: M. L.  
 (Miss)  
 Wickham: H. L.  
 Wilkie: G. W.  
 Wilson: C. R.  
 Wilson: N. T.  
 Winder: Peter  
 Woodcock: G. N.  
 Worskett: R. R.  
 Wright: K. C. J.  
 Yap: Pow Veng

**R.I.B.A. Examination for the Office of Building Surveyor under Local Authorities.** At the R.I.B.A. Examination for the Office of Building Surveyor under Local Authorities held on 20, 21 and 22 April 1955, eleven candidates presented themselves and the following were successful: Edward Ashworth, Arnold Cherrington, John Ford, Clifford Baines Learmount, Trevor Lloyd, John Russell Parry, William Morgan Thomas.

**Tite Prize Competition.** In the United Kingdom 127 competitors took part in the Tite Prize 'en loge' competition.

The following competitors have been selected to proceed with the final drawings for the competition:—

G. J. Badnell (Department of Architecture, Northern Polytechnic, London), James Banister (Department of Architecture, University of Sheffield), W. G. M. Crerar (School of Architecture, The Royal Technical College, Glasgow), M. B. Everitt (School of Architecture, Leicester Colleges of Art and Technology),

W. J. Fisher (Department of Architecture, Northern Polytechnic, London), G. S. N. Hawthorn (School of Architecture, The Royal Technical College, Glasgow), J. H. Hutchinson (Leeds School of Architecture), R. J. B. Keene (School of Architecture, Leicester Colleges of Art and Technology), A. F. Modinos (School of Architecture, The Royal Technical College, Glasgow), A. M. Rome (The R.W.A. School of Architecture, Bristol), Miss A. J. Ross (School of Architecture, Robert Gordon's Technical College, Aberdeen).

**Soane Medallion Competition.** In the United Kingdom 125 competitors took part in the Soane Medallion 'en loge' competition.

The following competitors have been selected to proceed with the final drawings for the competition:—

M. J. Attenborough (Nottingham School of Architecture), Richard Bryant (School of Architecture, Leicester Colleges of Art and Technology), Geoffrey Copcutt (School of Architecture, Leicester Colleges of Art and Technology), William Cove (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London), John Cuthbertson (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London), Thomas Hancock (School of Architecture, Leicester Colleges of Art and Technology), Miss A. E. Heyworth (Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool), I. H. A. Imlach (School of Architecture, Robert Gordon's Technical College, Aberdeen), R. M. Smart (Department of Architecture, Northern Polytechnic, London), R. F. Smith (Birmingham School of Architecture), L. G. D. Thompson (School of Architecture, Edinburgh College of Art), Mrs. S. M. Walker (The School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London).

## ALLIED SOCIETIES

### Changes of Officers and Addresses

*Buckinghamshire Society of Architects.* Chairman, E. Boothroyd [A].

*Devon and Cornwall Society of Architects.* President, H. F. Walls [A]. *Exeter Branch:* Chairman, C. F. J. Thurley [F]. *Plymouth Branch:* Chairman, Frederick Napp [A]. *Truro Branch:* Chairman, J. H. Crowther [F].

*Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects, Cambridge Chapter.* Chairman, W. L. Lee [A].

*Aberdeen Society of Architects.* President, E. F. Davies [F].

*Edinburgh Architectural Association.* A. Esme Gordon [A] (as from 4 June).

*Stirling Society of Architects.* President, W. H. Henry [L].

*Federation of Malaya Society of Architects.* Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, K. C. Duncan [A].

*New Zealand Institute of Architects.* President, N. Y. A. Wales. Hon. Secretary, F. E. Greenish, M.B.E., M.C., V.D. [A].

*Province of Quebec Association of Architects.* President, E. J. Turcotte. Hon. Secretary, R. C. Betts.

*South Australian Institute of Architects.* President, L. G. Bruer [A]. Hon. Secretary, Gavin Walkley [F].

*Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects.* President, H. G. Summerley, 301 Portland

Place, 37 Jorissen Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg.

**York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society Annual Dinner Dance.** This year's annual dinner and dance of the York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society was held on Friday 15 April at the Royal Station Hotel, Hull, and was attended by some 150 members and guests. Mr. Allanson Hick [F], President of the Society, was in the Chair. The President R.I.B.A., Mr. C. H. Aslin, C.B.E., and Mrs. Aslin were the guests of honour. Among the other guests were the Sheriff of Hull and his Lady—Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Horsley; Lieut.-Col. Rupert Alec-Smith and Mrs. Alec-Smith; Mr. H. Bennett [F], President of the West Yorkshire Society of Architects, and Mrs. Bennett; Mr. H. A. Hickson [F], President of the Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Society of Architects and Surveyors, and Mrs. Hickson; Mr. D. L. Staniland, Chairman of the Yorkshire Branch of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, and Mrs. Staniland; Dr. O. G. Prosser, President of the Hull Branch British Medical Association, and Mrs. Prosser; Mr. R. F. Payne, President of the Hull Incorporated Law Society, and Mrs. Payne; Mr. S. I. Hemming, Principal of the Hull College of Arts, and Mrs. Hemming; Mr. P. C. Finch, President of the Hull Building Trades Employers' Association, and Mrs. Finch; Mr. J. J. Fisher, President of the Hull Guild of Building, and Miss Fisher.

The toast of the R.I.B.A. and its President was proposed by the Sheriff of Hull, and Mr. C. H. Aslin responded. Mr. Allanson Hick was the proposer of the health of the guests and this was responded to by Lieut.-Col. Alec-Smith, who is an ex-Sheriff of the City and an honorary member of the Society. In his speech Col. Alec-Smith mentioned the importance of architectural tradition in the development of contemporary building style and referred to the possibility of a School of Architecture within the University, now that the University of Hull has been granted its Charter and might therefore award an architectural degree. It has long been the desire of many members of the Society and profession that the School should have University status.

The dinner was followed by a well-attended dance in which a number of students and younger members also participated.

**The Federation of Malaya Society of Architects. Annual Dinner.** The annual dinner of the Federation of Malaya Society of Architects was held at the Station Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, on Saturday 12 March and was attended by 81 members and guests. The guests were received by the President Mr. V. S. van Langenberg [L] and Mrs. van Langenberg and the Vice-President Mr. E. G. Gardner [A].

The guests of honour were His Highness the Sultan of Selangor, Sir Hisammudin Alam Shah ibni Almarhum Sultan Alaiddin Sulaiman Shah, K.C.M.G., and The Tengku Ampuan. Official guests included The Honourable Raja Sir Uda bin Raja Muhammad, K.B.E., C.M.G. (Mentri Besar), and Lady Uda, The Honourable Mr. R. B. Carey (President of the Board of Architects), Mr. T. Eames Hughes (President of the Municipality) and Mrs. Hughes, Mr. K. Nankivell (Director of Public Works) and Mrs. Nankivell, Brigadier W. F. Anderson, M.B.E., M.C. (C.R.E.), and Mrs. Anderson, Mr. D. I. Todman (Chairman, Malayan Association of the Institution of Civil Engineers) and Mrs. Todman, Mr. W. E. Reeve (Chairman of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) and Mrs. Reeve, and Mr. E. J. Seow [A] (Hon. Secretary of the Institute of Architects of Malaya) and Mrs. Seow.



Following the loyal toasts the President of the Municipality, in a lively speech, proposed the toast of the Royal Institute of British Architects and The Federation of Malaya Society of Architects, which was responded to by the President of the Society.

The Vice-President proposed the toast of 'Our Guests' and the Mentri Besar replied.

## GENERAL NOTES

**London County Council, Qualifying Examination for the Office of District Surveyor.** An examination for certificates of proficiency to perform the duties of district surveyor will be conducted in London in the week beginning 17 October 1955. The minimum age limit for candidates is 25. Possession of this certificate is necessary for appointment to positions as District Surveyor (salary scales £1,400 to £2,900 a year) or as Assistant District Surveyor (salary scale £1,071 to £1,224 a year). Subsequent examinations will be held annually.

Apply to the Architect to the Council (AR/ED/CTB), County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1, for application forms and further particulars.

**North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. Appointment of Architect.** Applications are invited from architects in practice with suitable experience for the following major schemes of hospital development on which the Board wish building to begin within the next two to three years:—

1. Hillingdon Hospital, Uxbridge, Middlesex: 150 beds and ancillary departments for a new 800 bedded hospital.
2. Slough, Bucks: new hospital of 300 beds.
3. Royal Northern Hospital, Holloway Road, N.7: Out-patient department; 30 beds and other services.

Applicants should give some details of the hospital and other work undertaken by them in recent years, and it is essential that they should be in a position to carry out the work within the period stated.

Applications should be submitted as soon as possible after publication of this notice, addressed to The Secretary, North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, Regional Architect's Department, Sheffield Street, W.C.2.

**National Trust for England, Wales and Northern Ireland and National Trust for Scotland.** The Institute has become a corporate subscribing member of the National Trust for England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and of the National Trust for Scotland. There are available a limited number of transferable corporate membership tickets which entitle holders to admission to properties under the management of the Trusts. Any member intending to visit a property may apply to the Secretary for the use of tickets, which are returnable to the Institute on the conclusion of the visit.

**Symposium on Heating.** Following their successful symposium on Roofing Materials, held last October, the Royal West of England Academy School of Architecture are to hold on Wednesday 25 May a second one, this time on heating, more particularly for small houses. The first session, at 2.30, will cover heating systems, including floor and ceiling heating and ducted air. The second session, at 4.45, will deal with appliances, including improved open fires, closeable stoves, air heaters, etc. It is to be held at the R.W.A. School of Architecture, 25 Gt. George St., Bristol, 1,

and is open to all members of the building industry. Application to attend should be made to the School Secretary. A charge of 5s. covers a full report.

**I.U.A. Fourth International Congress at The Hague, 11-16 July 1955.** The main theme of the Congress is 'Housing from 1945 to 1955', which is to be discussed under three main heads: Programme, Project, and Production. 'Project' is subdivided into Independent Designs, Type Plans and Equipment.

Each of these topics will be discussed at a Plenary Session of the Congress when a paper will be read by the appointed rapporteur. This discussion will be followed up in a series of Working Sessions. Background for the discussions will be supplied by a comprehensive international review of Housing since the war specially prepared by Professor J. H. Van den Broek in association with the Bouwcentrum, and based on the answers to a detailed questionnaire circulated to the member nations of the I.U.A.

The United Kingdom has contributed to this publication and is also sending an exhibition of post-war housing to The Hague to be shown as part of the I.U.A. International Exhibition. The U.K. Exhibition is being produced by the Building Centre and is on view there until 4 June.

The following have been nominated to attend

the sessions on Housing 1945-1955 as representatives of the United Kingdom: Mr. Peter Shephard [A] (Programme), Mr. G. Anthony Atkinson [A] (Project), Mr. Gontran Goulden [A] (Production). At the invitation of the President of the Congress, Mr. Anthony Chitty [F] will be acting as Chairman at the working sessions on Equipment.

The Congress will also devote some of its sessions to the discussion of two subsidiary themes—Architectural Education and The Place of the Architect in the Community. The United Kingdom will be represented at these sessions by Professor R. J. Gardner-Medwin [F] and Mr. J. M. Austin-Smith, M.C. [A] respectively. Sir Patrick Abercrombie [F] will attend the Congress as President d'Honneur of the International Union and Professor Robert Matthew, C.B.E. [A], as the United Kingdom's representative on the I.U.A. Executive Committee.

The delegates have been appointed by the I.U.A. or by the R.I.B.A. to ensure that the United Kingdom is properly represented but it is hoped that many other British architects will attend in a private capacity. This is the first occasion on which an I.U.A. Congress has been held within easy reach of Great Britain and it is an opportunity that will not occur again until 1959, when it is proposed to hold the Sixth International Congress of the I.U.A. in London. The present plan is to hold the Fifth Congress, in 1957, in Moscow.

## Notes from the Minutes of the Council

### MEETING HELD 5 APRIL 1955

**1. Appointments.** (a) *Ministry of Housing and Local Government Housing Medals: Chairman of Awards Committee for Region No. 2—East and West Ridings:* A. Newton Thorpe [F] in place of Noel Pyman [F]. (b) *Ministry of Works Building and Civil Engineering Regional Joint Committee for Region No. 12—South-Eastern:* R.I.B.A. Representative: H. Edgar Bunce [F] in place of G. Gregor Grant [F]. (c) *R.I.B.A. Representatives on Codes of Practice Committees:* Revision of Code 151.101 Wooden Doors, G. Newell [A]; New Code for Steel and Aluminium Corrugated Sheet Metal Roofing, C. W. Hutton [F]; Committee to decide whether a Code on Weather Protection should be drafted, D. W. Aldred [F]; Code on External Rendering (General Building Series), F. H. Heaven [A]; Committee to decide whether a Code on Flues for Larger Appliances in Buildings should be drafted, G. M. Kingsford [F]; Code on Sound Insulation, A. W. C. Barr [A]; Code on Functional Requirements for Buildings—Chapters on Daylight, Sunlight and Artificial Light, O. Campbell-Jones [F]; Revision of Code on Slatting and Tiling including Sub-Code on Random Slatting, C. M. Vine [A]. (d) *R.I.B.A. Representatives on B.S.I. Committees:* Sub-Committee to consider the preparation of a British Standard for cladding units for upper floors of buildings, G. Newell [A] and R. T. Walters [A]; Conference to consider British Standard for pitch fibre drain pipes, E. H. Sadler [A]; TIB/9—Wood Blocks for Floors, WPC/2—Classification of Wood Preservatives, WPC/2/1—Classification of Wood Preservatives (drafting), Kenneth Twist [A]; LBC/18—Laboratory Furniture and Fittings, J. T. Redpath [A]; B/61—Architectural and Building Drawing Office Practice, Lister P. Rees [A] in place of E. D. Mills [F]; B/75—Modular Co-ordination, Lister P. Rees [A]; HIB/3—Cast Iron Building Fittings, Lister P. Rees [A] in place of E. D. Mills [F]; HIB/7—Cisterns, Tanks and Cylinders, Lister P. Rees

[A] in place of E. D. Mills [F]; HIB/11—Wall Ties, Lister P. Rees [A] in place of E. D. Mills [F]; HIB/12/3—Metal Windows for Agricultural Purposes, Lister P. Rees [A]; HIB/15—Pressed Steel Galvanised Rain-water Goods, HIB/17—Sundry Fittings for Building Purposes—Fixings, HIB/20—Non-Ferrous Rain-water Goods, MEE/47—Cast Pipe Fittings, NFE/22/1—Lead Sheet and Strip for Building Purposes, NFE/22/2—Lead Pipes and Fittings, SAB/2—Water Fittings, SAB/4—Waste Fittings for Sanitary Appliances, Lister P. Rees [A] in place of E. D. Mills [F]; MEE/104—Identification of Pipe Lines, Cables, Conduits, etc., John Kemp [A] in place of E. D. Mills [F]; HIB/3—Cast Iron Building Fittings, H. H. Clark [F] in place of E. D. Mills [F].

**2. Honours.** The congratulations of the Council were sent to the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres [Hon. F] and to Lord Bilsland [Hon. A] on their appointment as Knights of the Thistle; and to Mr. David Mills [A] (Kenya) on the award of the Order of the British Empire.

**3. Completion of Premises Fund: Bequest.** The Secretary reported that under the will of the late Mr. W. A. Harvey [F] his estate would pass to the R.I.B.A. for the Completion of Premises Fund on the termination of a life interest set up under the will.

**4. Village Halls.** The President wrote to the Minister of Education in regard to the building of village halls with the aid of subsidies to be provided by the Government, and drew attention to the importance of good design and quality. He asked the Minister to consider the advantages of employing qualified architects for this work.

The following reply has been received from the Minister, and is published with his consent:—

'I have been looking into the problem of village hall design which you mention in your letter of 7 February.

'I quite agree with you that we should all strive to ensure that the villages achieve good standards of design, and that this is more likely to be achieved if qualified architects are employed. Sound advice in the early stages of the preparation of a scheme is also important, and I am glad to know that something is being done to provide this. The National Council of Social Service, with whom the Ministry co-operate very closely in dealing with village halls, issued two pamphlets last year, one on the site and building, and the other on the interior. They are also issuing a revised version of their *Notes of Construction* which have been brought up to date. The Ministry's architects can help too, since arrangements have been made for them to see plans at an earlier stage than was often possible in the past. Finally, all applications are sent to the Ministry through Local Education Authorities, and I hope that they will do their best to assist the local Village Hall Committees to achieve good standards.'

**5. Council of Industrial Design.** The Secretary reported that the following architects had been co-opted as members of the Council of Industrial Design: J. M. Richards [A], R. Y. Goodden [A], Mischa Black.

**6. Council Elections: Circulation of Biographical Information about Candidates.** It was agreed that in future biographical details of candidates for Council elections should be printed separately for circulation with the voting paper so as to be easily available to members when filling in their voting papers. The particulars will not therefore in future be published in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL.

**7. Amendment to Bye-laws: The Indian Institute of Architects.** Formal approval was given to amendments to Clauses 16 and 17 of the Bye-laws of the Indian Institute of Architects.

**8. Exhibitions.** On the recommendation of the Public Relations Committee, the Council approved of the following exhibitions being prepared: (a) *Drawings of the late Cyril Farey* [F]. To be shown in the Members' Room for a period in the autumn. The dates have yet to be fixed. (b) *Ministry of Works Exhibition on Architectural Methods applied to the Preservation of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings.* This exhibition will be prepared by the Ministry of Works and will deal with the special problems which arise and the techniques evolved by the Ministry's architects. It will be arranged jointly with the R.I.B.A. and will be shown at the R.I.B.A. for a fortnight during December 1955. (c) *British Electricity Authority's Exhibition on Pulverised Fuel Ash Building Products.* An exhibition to illustrate architectural aspects of the utilisation of waste products from power stations in the form of building materials will be shown at the R.I.B.A. for a period in October 1955. The exhibition is being prepared by the British Electricity Authority in consultation with the R.I.B.A. and the Building Research Station.

**9. Grants and Subscriptions for 1955.** The following list of grants and subscriptions was approved:—

|                                                    | £   | s. | d. |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| British School at Rome                             | 750 | 0  | 0  |
| Architects' Benevolent Society                     | 150 | 0  | 0  |
| Architectural Association Lantern Slide Collection | 100 | 0  | 0  |
| British School of Archaeology at Athens            | 50  | 0  | 0  |
| Council for the Preservation of Rural England      | 50  | 0  | 0  |
| Students' Easter Visit to Rome                     | 50  | 0  | 0  |
| British Standards Institution                      | 31  | 10 | 0  |

|                                                                                     | £  | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Parliamentary and Scientific Committee                                              | 26 | 5  | 0  |
| National Trust for England, Wales and Northern Ireland                              | 25 | 0  | 0  |
| National Smoke Abatement Society Association for the Preservation of Rural Scotland | 12 | 12 | 0  |
| Council for the Preservation of Rural Wales                                         | 10 | 10 | 0  |
| R.I.B.A. Cricket Club                                                               | 10 | 10 | 0  |
| R.I.B.A. Library Group                                                              | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| National Trust for Scotland                                                         | 5  | 5  | 0  |
| Ulster Society for the Preservation of the Countryside                              | 5  | 5  | 0  |
| International Federation for Housing and Town Planning                              | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| British School at Rome, Faculty of Archaeology                                      | 3  | 3  | 0  |
| National Art Collections Fund                                                       | 3  | 3  | 0  |

**10. British Architects' Conference 1957.** The Council accepted the invitation of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association to hold the British Architects' Conference in 1957 at Oxford. The dates have been fixed for 10-13 July 1957.

**11. Proposed London Society of Private Practising Architects.** A proposal to form a London Society of Private Practising Architects was reported to the Council. After full consideration of the matter the Council decided that such a proposal was to be deprecated. The view was expressed that the profession must be regarded as a single entity composed of members whose ultimate interests in the advancement of architecture are identical, and that any move which might give Government authorities and the public generally an impression of divided counsels is unwise and likely to impair the influence of the profession when making representations on matters of importance. They consider that the R.I.B.A. and the Allied Societies provide adequate machinery for the discussion and solution of all problems which may arise, and they deplore the tendency of a minority of members to take up membership of other bodies, especially those which require no qualification by examination for admission to membership.

**12. Membership.** The following members were elected: as Fellows 10, as Associates 144, as Licentiates 2.

**13. Students.** 74 Probationers were elected as Students.

**14. Applications for Reinstatement.** The following applications were approved: as Fellow, Frederick Stanley Haynes; as Associates, Hans Eduard Bock, Gordon Raphael Bonella.

**15. Resignations.** The following resignations were accepted with regret: Frederick Louis Klingender [F], Frederick Raymond Gibson [A], Allan Godfrey Jesseman [A], Frederick Cavendish Pearson [L], William Robert Hone Raysdown Rogers [Retd. L].

**16. Applications for Transfer to Retired Members' Class under Bye-law 15.** The following applications were approved: as Retired Fellow, Christian Charles Tyler Doll; as Retired Licentiate, Guy Leresche.

**17. Obituary.** The Secretary reported with regret the death of the following members: Sir Harry Sheil Elster Vanderpant [Hon. A], Aage Rafn [HCM], James Allner [F], Charles Brett [F], Sydney Ernest Castle [F], B. Edward Evans [F], Albert Edward Lees [F], Alastair Marshall McMichael [F], Charles Geoffrey Blomfield [Retd. F], Charles Thomas Adshead [A], Hugh Cresswell Grierson [A], John Cuthbert Jevons [A], William Arthur Lewis [A],

Edward Loveluck [A], Eric Robert Noble [A], Douglas Willerton Richardson [A], William Haydyn Robertson [A], Frederick Raymond Brayshaw [L], William Crooks [L], Cecil Henry Fox [L], Walter Mole [L], Edward Attree [Retd. L].

By resolution of the Council the sympathy and condolences of the Royal Institute have been conveyed to their relatives.

## MEETING HELD ON 3 MAY 1955

**1. Appointments.** (A) *Parliamentary and Scientific Committee:* R.I.B.A. Representation. Bruce Martin [A] in place of Lister P. Rees [A]. (Note: The other representative is Alistair G. MacDonald [F].) (B) *9th International Hospital Congress, Lucerne:* R.I.B.A. Representative. Donald A. Goldfinch [F]. (C) *Professional Classes Aid Council:* R.I.B.A. Representative. Michael Tapper [F] in place of J. Alan Slater [F], resigned. (D) *National Smoke Abatement Society:* R.I.B.A. Representative on Executive Council. Howard V. Lobb [F]. (E) *National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting:* R.I.B.A. Observer at Inaugural Meeting. Thomas Mitchell [A]. (F) *R.I.B.A. Representative on Code of Practice Committee on Roof and Yard Drainage.* A. H. Ley [F]. (G) *R.I.B.A. Representatives on B.S.I. Committees:* (i) GLC/1, *Glass and Glazing.* O. C. F. Carey [A] in place of C. L. Morris [F], resigned. (ii) NFE/26, *Corrugated and Troughed Aluminium Sheets.* R. M. V. Messenger [A]. (iii) ASB/5, *Asbestos-Cement Cisterns for Cold Water Storage.* A. H. Ley [F] and E. H. Sadler [A].

**2. R.I.B.A. Collection of Photographs of Architects' Work.** On the recommendation of the Public Relations Committee, it was agreed to waive the restriction by which members are limited to the submission of photographs of not more than two separate buildings per year for inclusion in the R.I.B.A. photographic record of members' work.

**3. Mr. D. H. McMorran, A.R.A. [F].** The cordial congratulations of the Council were conveyed to Mr. D. H. McMorran [F], on his election as an Associate of the Royal Academy.

**4. Membership.** The following members were elected: as Fellows 2; as Associates 8.

**5. Students.** 35 Probationers were elected as Students.

**6. Applications for Election.** Applications for election were approved as follows: *Election 14 June 1955:* as Honorary Associate 1; as Fellows 13; as Associates 212; as Licentiates 5. *Election 11 October 1955 (Overseas Candidates):* as Fellows 3; as Associates 12.

**7. Applications for Reinstatement.** The following applications were approved: as Fellow, Harry Arthur Blunt; as Licentiate, Joseph Jonathan Giddens.

**8. Applications for Transfer to Retired Members' Class under Bye-law 15.** The application of Mr. Charles Reginald Tetley for transfer to the class of Retired Fellows was approved.

**9. Obituary.** The Secretary reported with regret the death of the following members: Beni Carr Glyn Burnett [F], James Edwin Forbes [F], Ernest Budge Gianfield [F], Major Philip Norman Logan, O.B.E. [F], Alexander Nisbet Malcolm [F], Christian Charles Tyler Doll [Retd. F], Arthur Stratton, F.S.A. [Retd. F], Harold William Corkill [A], Alan David Gamble [A], Miss Hilda Mason

[Retd. A], Arthur Pickup [Retd. A], Charles Ernest Stafford [Retd. A], Howard Leslie Baker [L], John Egbert Griffiths [L], Raymond William Walker [L], Robert Proctor Bush [Retd. L].

By resolution of the Council the sympathy and condolences of the Royal Institute have been conveyed to their relatives.

## Membership Lists

### ELECTION: 3 MAY 1955

The following candidates for membership were elected on 3 May 1955.

#### AS FELLOWS (2)

Chaplin: Sidney George [A 1930], Hastings, New Zealand.

Phillips: Herbert Eric [A 1923], Hastings, New Zealand.

#### AS ASSOCIATES (8)

Fong: Ying Leong, B.Arch. (Melbourne), Kuala Lumpur.

Leaning: John Dalton, B.Arch. (L'pool), Växjö, Sweden.

McIntyre: Hamish Webster Fairlie, Dip.Arch. (Abdn.), Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

McIntyre: Hector Laird, B.Arch. (L'pool), Victoria, B.C., Canada.

Miller: Clive McDonald, A.S.T.C.(Arch.), Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

Mowbray: Trevor John, Dipl.Arch. (U.C.L.), Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

Parandekar: Dattatraya Raghunath, Patna (Bihar), India.

Parker: Desmond John, B.Arch. (Melbourne), South Caulfield, Victoria, Australia.

### ELECTION: 14 JUNE 1955

An election of candidates for membership will take place on 14 June 1955. The names and addresses of the candidates, with the names of their proposers, are herewith published for the information of members. Notice of any objection or any other communication respecting them must be sent to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., not later than Monday 30 May 1955.

The names following the applicant's address are those of his proposers.

#### AS HON. ASSOCIATE (1)

Jehangir: Sir Cowasjee, Bart., G.B.E., K.C.I.E., Readymoney House, Nepean Sea Road, Malabar Hill, Bombay, India. Proposed by the Council.

#### AS FELLOWS (13)

Allsopp: Harold Bruce, B.Arch., Dip.C.D. (L'pool), A.M.T.P.I. [A 1935], Woodburn, Batt House Road, Stocksfield, Northumberland. Prof. W. B. Edwards, Prof. J. S. Allen, J. H. Napper.

Beswick: Robert Eastcott Edward, M.B.E., Dipl.Arch. (L'pool) [A 1938], 10 Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.; The Forge, Manton, Marlborough, Wilts. A. E. Beswick, Prof. L. B. Budden, S. T. Walker.

Carter: Richard, A.A.Dipl. [A 1935], Lyndum House, High Street, Petersfield, Hants; Shirlles, Tilmore, Petersfield. J. V. Nisbet, A. C. Townsend, J. B. Brandt.

Dobie: William Harrower Glen, T.D., Dipl. Arch. (L'pool) [A 1927], 11 Rumford Street, Liverpool, 2; 'Rake Hey', Redhill Road, Bebbington, Cheshire. H. A. Dod, W. G. Dobie, Lieut.-Colonel Ernest Gee.

Keys: Julian Walter, Dip.Arch. (The Polytechnic) [A 1946], 37 Gloucester Place, W.1; 43 Dunstan Road, N.W.11. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Kirby: Major Arthur Douglas [A 1935], 10 Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts; 'Elgin Cottage', 82 Kingston St. Michael, nr. Chippenham, Wilts. A. E. Beswick, E. H. Button, T. H. B. Burrough.

Knapper: Charles [A 1941], Building Department, North Staffordshire Technical College, Cauldon Place, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent; 'Hillside', Whitmore Road, Trentham, Staffs. J. A. Pickavance, J. R. Piggott, Clifton Edwards.

MacPherson: Donald [A 1921], 12 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.1; The Copse, East Horsley, Surrey. P. V. Burnett, G. H. Fielder, C. W. Neil.

Messenger: Robert Michael Veitch, A.A.Dipl. [A 1936], 148 High Street, Herne Bay, Kent; 'St. Helens', 46 Canterbury Road, Herne Bay. H. C. Ashenden, H. Anderson, R. T. Green.

Seymour: Kenneth James Hyde [A 1938], London Transport Executive, Architect's Office, 55 Broadway, S.W.1; Acacia Cottage, The Ridge, Maybury Hill, Woking, Surrey. Thomas Bilbow, T. E. Scott, Stanley Heaps.

Treleaven: Reginald Henry [A 1940], One Bloomsbury Square, W.C.1; The White House, Whyteleafe, Surrey. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Wilford: Charles Edmund [A 1926], 2 Green Street, W.1; Wigmore House, 10 Duke Street, W.1; 105/106 New Bond Street, W.1; Waterloo House, 2 Hastings Street, Leicester; 3 Taunton Road, Leicester. S. Penn Smith, T. W. Haird, G. A. Cope.

and the following Licentiate who has passed the qualifying examination:

Conway: Francis Robert Aloysius, 99 Hornsey Lane, Highgate, N.6; 99a Hornsey Lane, Highgate, N.6. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

#### AS ASSOCIATES (212)

The name of a school, or schools, after a candidate's name indicates the passing of a recognised course.

Abbott: Eric Herbert, Dip.Arch. (Birm.) (Birmingham Sch. of Arch.), 37 Moorpool Avenue, Harborne, Birmingham, 17. A. Douglas Jones, A. G. Sheppard Fidler, D. H. Davies.

Addleson: Lyall Sholto, B.Arch. (C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 133a Goldhurst Terrace, Swiss Cottage, N.W.6. Prof. L. W. T. White, O. Pryce Lewis and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Alexander: Clive Willis, B.A. (Cantab.), Dipl. Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 11 Castlefield Road, Reigate, Surrey. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, S. L. Thomson, R. C. White-Cooper.

Allan: Thomas Tulloch (Special Final), 4 Islay Avenue, Burnside, Rutherglen. J. A. Coia, Prof. W. J. Smith, T. S. Cordiner.

Allen: Ronald Richard (Special Final), 25 Old Park Avenue, Sheffield, 8. J. W. Davidson, H. B. S. Gibbs, W. L. Clinie.

Archer: John Hugh Gordon (Final), 16 Norman Road, Moston, Manchester 9. Cecil Stewart, L. C. Howitt, W. C. Young.

Armstrong: John Acheson, Dip. Arch. (Sheffield) (Univ. of Sheffield, Dept. of Arch.), c/o 132 Psalter Lane, Sheffield, 11. Prof. Stephen Welsh, H. B. Leighton, H. B. S. Gibbs.

Arrow: Albert William (Special Final), 80 Gravel Hill, Addington, Surrey. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Ashdown: Robert Allen (Final), 23 Presburg Road, New Malden, Surrey. Frederick Barber and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Austin: Thomas Aitken, B.Arch. (N.U.I. Dublin) (Univ. Coll. Dublin, Ireland: Sch. of Arch.), 64 Walton Street, S.W.3. Prof. J. V. Downes, Ronald Ward, Victor Wilkins.

Axon: Thomas Frank (Special Final) 6 Bingham Road, Addiscombe, Croydon, Surrey. J. K. Hicks, A. E. Geens, H. A. N. Medd.

Ball: Thomas William (Special Final), 32 Gatestone Court, Gatestone Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.19. Dr. J. L. Martin, H. F. Hoar, K. L. Sharpe.

Barclay: Robert Louis (Special Final), 'Lower Flat', Stepway House, Church Hill, Hythe, Kent. Richard Mellor, L. H. McDermott, R. T. Green.

Bell: Dudley Philip, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 4 Gordon Road, Sidcup, Kent. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, S. L. Thomson, R. C. White-Cooper.

Belle: John Leighton (Arch.Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), Brae Cottage, North Queensferry, Fife. Arthur Korn, E. Riss, Frank Rutter.

Bémant: André Edouard Serge, B.Arch. (L'pool) (Liverpool Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of Liverpool), 8a, Oakfield Road, Clifton, Bristol, 8. Prof. L. B. Budden, Herbert Thearle, R. R. Young.

Bentley: Arthur Gordon (Special Final), 18 Heath Avenue, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs. J. R. Piggott, J. A. Pickavance, E. T. Watkin.

Benwell: Peter (Final), 48 Wymering Park Terrace, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth. A. C. Townsend, J. V. Nisbet, R. L. Reynish.

Best: Edward Charles (Final), 79 Denzil Avenue, Southampton. A. C. Townsend, Herbert Collins, Ernest Bird.

Black: Douglas (Final), 3 Grasmere Avenue, Flixton, Manchester. L. C. Howitt, F. L. Halliday, Edgar Sutcliffe.

Bolland: Sydney, B.Arch.(L'pool) (Liverpool Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of Liverpool), 50 Courtland Road, Liverpool, 18. Prof. R. Gardner-Medwin, R. R. Young, B. A. Miller.

Borton: Desmond Gilbert (Special Final), 'Lanreath', 19 Woodcote Close, Epsom, Surrey. R. T. Boutall, Z. Sirotkin, C. V. Ponder.

Boulting: Kenneth Frank (Final), 114 Forest Road, Hanham, Bristol. J. N. Meredith, T. H. B. Burrough, F. L. Hannam.

Bouskill: Brian Edward, B.A. (Arch) (Manchester) (Victoria Univ., Manchester: Sch. of Arch.), 'Strangford', 2 Broadoak Road, Bramhall, Cheshire. Prof. R. A. Cordingley, H. T. Seward, W. C. Young.

Bradshaw: Peter John Dixon (Special Final), Hale Lodge, Grove Lane, Hale, Cheshire. E. C. M. Willmott, F. L. Halliday, C. G. Agate.

Brand: James John Whytock, D.A. (Dundee) (Dundee Coll. of Art: Sch. of Arch.), 112 Strathmartine Road, Dundee. John Needham, W. S. Gaudie, E. Riss.

Briggs: Dennis Sydney (Special Final), 41 Priestfield Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Bristow: David Sherwood, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 'Grenham', 101 West Heath Road, Hampstead, N.W.3. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, S. L. Thomson.



**Brown: Frederick Joseph** (Special Final), 404 Poulton Road, Wallasey, Cheshire. C. W. Box, M. G. Gilling, Herbert Thearle.

**Burke: John** (Final), 17 Springfield Gardens, Kingsbury, N.W.9. J. M. Scott, H. K. Ablett, H. G. Coulter.

**Caffry: Charles William** (Final), 206 Newton Road, Torquay, S. Devon. G. R. Todd, H. C. Powell, Edward Narracott.

**Castle: Paul**, B.Arch. (L'pool) (Liverpool Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of Liverpool), 57 Broadhurst Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.6. Prof. R. Gardner-Medwin, B. A. Miller, Prof. L. B. Budden.

**Chirside: George William**, D.A. (Edin.) (Edinburgh Coll. of Art: Sch. of Arch.), 12 Briery Bank, Haddington, East Lothian. J. R. McKay, T. W. Marwick, W. H. Kininmonth.

**Clapham: Stanley John**, Dipl.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), The End House, Fife Road, Sheen Lane, S.W.14. Prof. A. E. Richardson, E. A. S. Houfe, Prof. H. O. Corfiato.

**Codrington Forsyth: James Edward** (Final), Kennels Cottage, The Common, Chorley Wood, Herts. A. C. Townsend, Dr. J. L. Martin, A. R. Borrett.

**Coffin: James Henry Ford**, A.R.I.C.S. (Final), 'Minerva', 103 Sunnyside Road, Weston-super-Mare. T. H. B. Burrough, F. L. Hannam, Kenneth Nealon.

**Cole: John Dison**, Dip. Arch. (The Polytechnic) (The Poly., Regent Street, London: Sch. of Arch.), 50 Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.3. J. S. Walkden, Dr. J. L. Martin, A. E. Miller.

**Connaughton: John Francis**, B.Arch. (N.U.I. Dublin) (Univ. Coll., Dublin, Ireland: Sch. of Arch.), Shop Street, Tuam, Co. Galway, Ireland. J. J. Robinson, Raymond McGrath and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Cooke: Alan George** (Final), 3 Lampits Hill Avenue, Corringham, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Cooley: Neville** (Special Final), 104 Grestone Avenue, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham 20. Edward Holman, S. N. Cooke, H. C. Bloomer.

**Coombes: (Miss) Josephine**, B.Arch. (Melbourne) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), 66 Hopton Road, Streatham, S.W.16. R. G. Parker, R. S. Demaine, Harry Winbush.

**Cruikshank: George**, Dip. Arch. (Abdn) (Aberdeen Sch. of Arch.: Robert Gordon's Tech. Coll.), c/o Mason, 112 Union Grove, Aberdeen. E. F. Davies, J. G. Marr, A. B. Gardner.

**Danby: Miles William**, A.A.Dipl. (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 56 Manor Way, Boreham Wood, Herts. D. du R. Aberdeen, R. C. White-Cooper, J. F. Howes.

**Davis: Howard Ernest Lowie** (Final), 49 Effingham Road, St. Andrew's Park, Bristol, 6. J. N. Meredith, T. H. B. Burrough, F. L. Hannam.

**Dawes: George Steven**, D.A.(Glas.) (Glasgow Sch. of Arch.), 52 Rowallan Drive, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire. Prof. W. J. Smith, J. A. Carrick, William McCrea.

**Dent: (Miss) Margaret Olivia**, A.A.Dipl. (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 103 St. Marks Road, W.10. H. T. Cadbury-Brown, Elie Mayorcas, G. A. Jellicoe.

**Dixon: Stephen Somers**, B.Arch. (L'pool) (Liverpool Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of Liverpool), 22 Alexandra Drive, Liverpool, 17. Prof. R.

Gardner-Medwin, Prof. H. M. Wright, Prof. L. B. Budden.

**Djurkovic: George** (Special Final), 9 Montague Gardens, W.3. Paul Nightingale, G. C. Wilson, D. Nightingale.

**Dockerty: William**, Dip.Arch. (Manchester) (Victoria Univ., Manchester: Sch. of Arch.), 30 Burbage Road, Baguley, Manchester. F. M. Reynolds, Dr. W. A. Singleton, Prof. R. A. Cordingley.

**Dove: (Mrs.) Deirdre Cecily** (Final), Flat 1, Montague House, Dartmouth Hill, S.E.10. Richard Sheppard, Paul Nightingale, D. Nightingale.

**Dukes: Eric George** (Final), 'Avonleigh', 6 Dunkeld Road, Gosport, Hampshire. A. C. Townsend, J. V. Nisbet, Frank Mellor.

**Dyas: John**, Dip. Arch. (Birm.) (Birmingham Sch. of Arch.), Brading House, Brading Road, Weddington, Nuneaton, Warwickshire. A. Douglas Jones, A. G. Sheppard Fidler, D. H. Davies.

**Edge: George Trevor** (Final), 'Wychways', 49 Pine Walk, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey. K. M. Winch, E. D. Mills and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

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**Wickham: Henry Lewis** (Final), 1 King's College Road, Ruislip, Middx. Thomas Bilbow, Guy Morgan, H. C. Inglis.

**Williams: John Howard, B.Arch.** (C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), Flat No. 11, 105 Hallam Street, W.1. O. Pryce Lewis, Alister MacDonald, G. C. Wilson.

**Wilson: Norman Terence, Dip.Arch.** (The Polytechnic) (The Poly., Regent Street, London: Sch. of Arch.), 40 Lancaster Park, Richmond, Surrey. D. J. Cole, B. H. Peake, W. W. Fisk.

**Winder: Peter** (Final), Bank House, Avenue Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Woodcock: Gerald Noel** (Final), Greenvale Farm Cottage, Nr. Airport, St. Brelades, Jersey, C. I. Cecil Stewart, C. W. B. Bolton, H. H. Smith.

**Worrall: (Mrs.) Jill Mary, B.A.(Arch.)** (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 13 Woodgrange Mansions, Woodgrange Avenue, Kenton, Middx. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, Thomas Ritchie, R. C. White-Cooper.

**Worrall: William Bryan, Dipl.Arch.** (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 13 Woodgrange Mansions, Woodgrange Avenue, Kenton, Middx. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, Thomas Ritchie, R. C. White-Cooper.

**Worskett: Royston Roffey** (Final), 108 Clarence Road, Horsham, Sussex. A. C. Townsend, S. H. J. Roth, C. J. Kay.



Wright: **Keith Colin John** (Final), 3a Forest Drive East, Leytonstone, E.11. D. W. Aldred, W. Evans, A. C. Chalmers.

Yap: **Fow Veng** (Special Final), 63 Connaught Street, W.2. J. F. Howes, F. R. S. Yorke, Eugene Rosenberg.

Yexley: **Harold George**, Dipl.Arch. (Oxford) (Sch. of Tech. Art and Commerce, Oxford: Sch. of Arch.), 1 Manchester Square, W.1. R. W. Cave, David Beecher, H. H. Matthews.

#### AS LICENTIATES (4)

Bromley: **Geoffrey Owen**, Elwick Chambers, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent; 51 Baldwin Avenue, Eastbourne, Sussex. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Chapman: **Arthur Henry**, M.B.E., M.A. (Cantab.), 1 Queen Edith House, 31 Queen Edith's Way, Cambridge. H. C. Hughes, W. P. Dyson, Peter Bicknell.

Krejsa: **Sidney Ralph**, c/o Buildings Dept., Kent County Council, Springfield, Maidstone; 'Carsphairn', The Grove, Bearsted, near Maidstone. Richard Mellor, E. T. A. Smith, L. H. McDermott.

Smith: **Lionel Stewart**, 4 Conduit Street, W.1; 15 Blandford Place, W.1. Major H. Oliver, L. A. Culliford, L. A. Chakett.

#### ELECTION: OCTOBER 1955

An election of candidates for membership will take place in October 1955. The names and addresses of the overseas candidates, with the names of their proposers, are herewith published for the information of members. Notice of any objection or any other communication respecting them must be sent to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., not later than Saturday 13 August 1955.

The names following the applicant's address are those of his proposers.

#### AS FELLOWS (3)

Betts: **Randolph Cotgrave**, B.Arch. (McGill) [A 1929], Room 1800, University Tower Building, 660, St. Catherine Street West, Montreal 2, P.Q., Canada; 230 Lazard Avenue, Town of Mount Royal, P.Q. J. R. Smith, Colin Drewitt, Chas. David.

Dadarkar:  **Ganpat Shrikrishna** [A 1934], 19 Sir Phirozeshah, Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay, India; 'Rustom Court', Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Bombay. M. K. Jadhav, Prof. S. S. Reuben, C. M. Master.

Kwan: **Wing Hong**, A.A.Dipl. [A 1936], Rooms 317-318, 9 Ice House Street, Hong Kong; 10 Homantin Hill Road, Kowloon. J. M. Easton, F. L. Preston, A. R. F. Anderson.

#### AS ASSOCIATES (12)

Bonnick: **John Harold**, B.Arch. (Toronto) (Univ. of Toronto, Canada: Sch. of Arch.), Messrs. Gordon S. Adamson and Associates, 52 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto, Canada. Prof. E. R. Arthur, J. B. Parkin, J. C. Parkin.

Brown: **Koppel**, B.Arch. (C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), P.O. Box 926, Kitwe, N. Rhodesia. Prof. L. W. T. White, O. Pryce Lewis and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Henderson: **Donald Robert** (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), c/o Messrs. Raglan

Squire and Partners, Selim Building, Rashid Street, Baghdad, Iraq. Raglan Squire and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Jackson: **Robert Best**, D.A.(Edin.) (Edinburgh Coll. of Art: Sch. of Arch.), Ved Stranden 9, Aalborg, Denmark. J. R. McKay, R. M. Noad, N. R. J. Johnston.

Malnic: **Sergei**, B.Arch. (Sydney) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), c/o Messrs. Baldwinson and Booth, 40 Miller Street, North Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Prof. H. I. Ashworth, Prof. Denis Winston, E. L. Thompson.

Naudé: **Schalk Vorster**, B.Arch. (C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), c/o Messrs. Tribelhorn and Louw, 801, Union House, Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town, S. Africa. Prof. L. W. T. White, O. Pryce Lewis, M. Policansky.

Peters: **Edward Charles**, B.Arch. (Sydney) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), c/o Messrs. Baldwinson and Booth, 40 Miller Street, North Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Prof. H. I. Ashworth, Prof. Denis Winston, E. L. Thompson.

Polson: **Gordon Fairlie**, D.A. (Glas.) (Glasgow Sch. of Arch.), 678 Bloor Street, East, Toronto 5, Ontario, Canada. Prof. W. J. Smith, Forsey Page, William McCrea.

Roxburgh: **Robert Dart**, B.Arch. (Sydney) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), 583 Paine Street, Albury, New South Wales, Australia. Prof. H. I. Ashworth, Prof. Denis Winston, E. L. Thompson.

Staniforth: **Ralph**, Dip.Arch. (C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 4 Ace Court, Berea Road, Bertrams, Johannesburg, S. Africa. Prof. L. W. T. White, O. Pryce Lewis, D. R. Harper.

Wise: **John Sturt**, B.Arch. (Rand.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 9 Park Court, Church Street, Florida, West Rand., S. Africa. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Wong: **Edwin**, B.Arch. (Auck., N.Z.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the N.Z.I.A.), 8 St. John Street, Wellington, New Zealand. Prof. C. R. Knight, W. H. Gummer, Prof. A. C. Light.

#### AS LICENTATE (1)

Agar: **Jamshed Burjor**, Messrs. Shapoorjee N. Chandabhoj and Co., Advani Chambers, Sir P. Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay, India; Rusi House, Nepean Sea Road, Bombay, 26. B. S. J. Agar, Prof. Claude Batley, P. P. Kapadia.

## Members' Column

*This column is reserved for notices of changes of address, partnership and partnerships vacant or wanted, practices for sale or wanted, office accommodation, and personal notices other than of posts wanted as salaried assistants for which the Institute's Employment Register is maintained.*

#### APPOINTMENTS

Mr. James C. Morgan [A] has taken up an appointment with the Hertfordshire County Council as Senior Planning Architect in the County Planning Department and will be glad to receive catalogues, etc., at County Hall, Hertford.

Mr. G. W. Pollard [A] has been appointed Head of the Faculty of Architecture and Dean of the new Royal Technical College of East

## Obituaries

Leslie Maurice Evans [F] died on 22 July 1954, aged 57.

Mr. Evans studied at the Birmingham School of Architecture and served his articles with a Birmingham architect. After a period as assistant architect with Messrs. Cadbury Bros. he became architect to the Potteries Water Board, then senior architectural assistant and later chief architectural assistant to the Loughborough Corporation. In 1950 he entered into private practice in Loughborough.

James Allner [F] died on 24 February, aged 71.

Mr. Allner served his articles with Mr. R. B. Preston, Diocesan Surveyor of Manchester, but practised thereafter in Blandford and Poole, Dorset, where he also became Diocesan Surveyor. He built various licensed premises for Messrs. Strong and Co. Ltd. of Romsey and for Messrs. John Groves and Sons Ltd. of Weymouth, and carried out extensive repairs to Iwerne Minster Church.

Alfred Forrester [Retd. F] died on 23 January, aged 76.

Mr. Forrester was an articulated pupil with the Borough Surveyor and Engineer, Middlesbrough, and began personal practice in 1903. The principal works with which he was concerned were Marsh Road Schools, Kirby Secondary School, Avenue Wesleyan Chapel and a number of business premises—all in Middlesbrough; another Wesleyan Chapel in Gt. Ayton, Yorks., and the Grange Town Estate.

Mr. Forrester served in the first world war in the Durham Light Infantry and with the Works Directorate of the Air Ministry from 1936 to 1944, and later with the War Damage Commission in which he was a Senior Assessor.

Bertram Henry Toms, A.M.T.P.I. [Retd. F] died on 20 February, aged 69.

Mr. Toms trained with Mr. W. D. Caroe, F.S.A. [F], Westminster, and entered the Architect's Department of the London County Council in 1910, remaining there for 40 years. He was in the Building Regulation Division, where he was concerned with the administration of the London Building Acts, with special reference to means of escape. He had a wide knowledge of the law relating to building which, with a keen understanding of the architect's problems, made him a sound and just administrator.

Africa. The address of the College is Knowles Court, Victoria Street, Nairobi, East Africa.

Mr. P. H. Rodgers [A] has been appointed Staff Architect to the London Plywood and Timber Co. Ltd., Wharf Road, Ponders End, Middlesex, where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

Mr. G. Rosenberg, A.M.T.P.I. [A] has been appointed Senior Lecturer in Town Planning at the School of Architecture, Auckland University College, Auckland C.1, New Zealand.

Mr. L. W. Rushbrook [L] has resigned his position as Burgh Architect, Hamilton, and has been appointed Burgh Architect of Dumfries. His address is Burgh Architect's Office, 2 Assembly Street, Dumfries.

Mr. Harry Williams, B.Arch. (L'pool), Dip. C.D., A.M.T.P.I. [A] has been appointed

Senior Assistant in Building Construction at the School of Architecture, Edinburgh College of Art, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh 3, where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Mr. E. H. Willison [L]** has been appointed Staff Architect to Messrs. Ilford Ltd.

#### PRACTICES AND PARTNERSHIPS

**Mr. R. H. Bowness [A]** has begun practice at Barclays Bank Chambers, High Street, Yeading, nr. Leeds, and will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Mr. Colin Cooper [A]** of Brocklehurst & Cooper has taken **Mr. D. F. A. Williamson [A]** into partnership and the practice will continue at Tudor House, 39a High Street, High Wycombe, Bucks., under the style of Brocklehurst, Cooper and Williamson.

**Mr. J. F. Davies, A.R.I.C.S. [L]** is practising at Barclays Bank Chambers, 353 Lord Street, Southport (Southport 56033).

**Mr. R. G. Dickinson [A]** has begun practice at No. 32 Edward Street, Blackpool, and will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Messrs. Grenfell Baines and Hargreaves, A.M.T.P.I. [AA]** of 12 Guildhall Street, Preston; 123 Victoria Road, Darlington; and 58 Topping Street, Blackpool, have taken into partnership **Mr. John Wilkinson [A]** and will continue to practise from the above addresses as Grenfell Baines and Hargreaves.

**Mr. Cyril F. W. Haseldine, T.D. [F]** has taken into partnership **Mr. J. E. Whitehorn [A]**. The style of the firm will be Cyril F. W. Haseldine and Whitehorn and the address remains Halifax House, Milton Street, Nottingham.

**Mr. Eric G. V. Hives [L]** of 3 Cork Street, Reading, has opened a branch office at 21 Market Place, Derby, where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Mr. Roy M. Jones [A]** has begun private practice at 6 Market Place, Rugby, where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues.

**Messrs. R. Mountford Pigott and Partners (Mr. R. M. Pigott, M.C., J.P. [F] and Mr. M. M. Pigott [A])** wish to announce that they have taken into partnership **Mr. Herbert S. Morel, A.A. Dipl. [A]**.

**Mr. John McNicol [A]** has resigned his appointment as County Planning Officer to the Antrim County Council and is now again in private practice as a town planning consultant at Princetown Lodge, Bangor, Co. Down, Northern Ireland.

The partnership between **Mr. Sterland** and **Mr. Moss** has been dissolved by mutual consent. **Mr. M. F. H. Moss [A]** will continue to practise from Newcastle Chambers, Angel Row, Nottingham. **Mr. W. D. Sterland [A]** has moved to 86 Friar Lane, Nottingham, where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Messrs. Symington, Prince and Pike (Mr. W. J. Prince [F] and Mr. M. W. Pike [F])** of de Montfort House, de Montfort Square, Leicester, have taken into partnership **Mr. L. C. Candlish, Dip.Arch. (Leics.) [A]** as from 6 December 1954. The style of the firm will remain unchanged.

**Mr. E. W. Pedley [F]** and **Mr. G. I. Larkin [A]** who have been practising as **T. H. Thorpe and Partners** at 41 Friar Gate, Derby, announce that they have taken into partnership **Mr. K. Tansley** and **Mr. R. W. Outhwaite [A]**. **Mr. Pedley** is retiring from the practice, which will be carried on under the same title and from the same address.

#### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

**Mr. Michael J. Bacon, M.C.D., B.Arch. [A]** is now living permanently in Toronto, and his address is Apartment 304, 107 Roselawn Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

**Mr. Richard Brown [A]** has changed his office address to 123 Victoria Road, Darlington (Darlington 5354).

**Mr. Denys G. Clarke [A]** has changed his address to Meadowcroft, St. George's Hill, Bathampton, Bath.

**Messrs. E. R. Collister and Associates** have changed their address to 70 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1 (VICTORIA 4957).

From 7 June the address of **Mr. Arthur Davies [L]** will be 'Clar Innis', Alde House Drive, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (Aldeburgh 418).

**Mr. S. F. De' Ath [A]** has changed his address to 31 Sheridan Avenue, Caversham, Reading, Berks.

**Mr. Merfyn C. Edwards [A]** is now in the Department of Public Works, Tancot House II, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanganyika Territory, East Africa.

**Mr. S. Gabrel [A]** is now living at 48 Kensington Gardens, The Drive, Ilford, Essex (VALENTINE 4602).

**Mr. Alfred George [L]** has now moved his practice to 112 Jermyn Street, St. James', London, S.W.1. His practice at 67 High Street, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam., continues in partnership with **Mr. Keith Thomas [A]**.

**Mr. C. L. Lister [A]** will be glad to receive trade circulars, etc., at 64 Bethel Street, Norwich.

**Mr. John Lloyd [A]** is now at 44 King's Road, Southsea, Hants.

**Mr. Kenneth G. Miller [A]** has transferred his offices to 9 Calverley Park Crescent, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

The permanent address of **Colin and Mary Oates [AA]** is now New Place, Whiteleaf, Monks Risborough, Aylesbury, Bucks.

**Messrs. J. D. Meade Taylor and J. V. Wilson, A.M.T.P.I. [AA]** have removed their offices to 33 Lansdowne Road, Kensington, London, W.11 (PARK 9681).

**Mr. Geoffrey Shires, M.B.E., M.C. [A]** has changed his address to Suite 5Z Artillery Mansions, 75 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1. The telephone number is unchanged.

**Messrs. Richard Sheppard and Partners [FAA]** have changed their address to 5 Southampton Place, London, W.C.1 (CHANCERY 4261-5).

**Messrs. Stillman and Eastwick-Field [AAA]** have moved to larger offices at 30 John Street, Bedford Row, London, W.C.1 (CHANCERY 2021-2).

**Mr. A. K. Sutton, B.Arch. [A]** has moved from Ottawa and is now living at 16 Oakview Apts., 1875 Christie Way, Victoria, British Columbia.

**Mr. Arthur Swift [A]**, practising as **Arthur Swift and Partners** has moved to No. 16 Manchester Square, London, W.1.

**Mr. E. G. Wildin [L]** has retired from his appointment as Company Architect to Mackeson & Co. Ltd., Hythe, and is practising at 'Blue Haze', Bartholomew Close, Hythe, Kent.

#### PRACTICES AND PARTNERSHIPS WANTED AND AVAILABLE

Associate, English (42), University trained, seeks situation with possibility of partnership

in the southern half of England (not London). Considerable experience of town and country practice, both as Chief Assistant and Principal. Capital available; car driver; single. Box 15, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Small 34-year practice for sale in busy 24,000 town West of England. Box 40, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate requires partnership or responsible post leading thereto, preferably Bristol area or coastal belt Portsmouth-Plymouth. Over 30 years' experience private practice, local government and government departments; varied work, including period and contemporary design. Moderate capital available. Box 41, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate, over 20 years of varied experience, wishes to settle in the London area and therefore find a position in London leading to partnership. Able to transfer some work. Some capital available. Box 43, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Architect retiring on account of ill-health from old-established well-known practice in the Lake District is selling same. Opening for architect anxious to build up a practice. Box 44, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

#### WANTED

Member in London wishes to buy volumes of the R.I.B.A. and other Journals up to 1933, preferably unbound. Box 45, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

#### ACCOMMODATION

Architect has to let in W.1 area of London small self-contained room for office use. Rent £2 per week, exclusive. Sharing of secretary could be discussed. Box 42, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate requires 250 to 350 sq. ft. office space in Central London. Sharing of secretary favoured but not essential. Box 46, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

*The Royal Institute of British Architects, as a body, is not responsible for statements made or opinions expressed in the JOURNAL.*



### Architects' Indemnity Insurance

The Architect, like other professional men, incurs certain responsibilities in the course of his work. Mistakes occur in even the most carefully conducted practice, and the Architect may find himself liable for substantial damages which he can ill afford to meet.

#### Professional Indemnity Insurance

is designed to give cover against all claims arising from acts of neglect, omission or error arising out of the conduct of the assured's profession, and arrangements have been made by which the maximum cover may be obtained at reasonable cost.

#### Particulars from:

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